



GULLIVER'S WORLD

With his billboard photos Wouter Deryutter takes us on a trip to Gulliver's land of the giants. Like the protagonist in Swift's 18th century novel we discover that we are living in an environment that others, bigger and mightier than us, have already conquered. At first glance, it is them who rule our world. They are beautiful, shiny, perfect -- either dressed or undressed, always passionate. We see them in impeccable environments with designer furniture or in fairytale landscapes.

It is this parallel world Deruytter shows us, a part of the world we live in, no doubt, but what a consolation that the passers by on Deruytter's photos don't care about the giants! The dwarfs ignore that strange reign of fashion, they go their way, they lead their lives.

It was a 20th century writer and philosophers that found a term for this form of personal independence within a powerful system: Ernst Jünger calls them "anarchs", people who live in a tyranny but keep their individuality. Not anarchists, they are not interested in fighting against these oversized amazons, they simply don't care -- and create their own separate world.

Gulliver Wouter comes back from his trip to New York's fashion tyranny with a prize: The comforting awareness that this metropolis will never be dominated by giants.

Dorothea Keeser (President) and Julia Draganovic (Director)
Chelsea Art Museum, Home of the Miotte foundation
New York, July 2005