



***Imported Landscapes, 2010* | Corinne Silva:**

Corinne Silva's *Imported Landscapes (2010)* is a subversion of the advertising space, a ubiquitous presence that interferes with the landscape on motorways around the world, momentarily disorienting the viewer. The sense of something familiar, yet oddly displaced, resonates through the disjunction between two landscapes, one fictional, the other seemingly real. Silva creates a surface within a surface, precluding the viewer from seeing any further, while her titles open up meaning in the landscapes she has captured: 'New suburb of Tangier placed in former mining region La Unión, Murcia'. Layers of empire emerge in a geographical mise-en-abyme with the shooting of Moroccan landscapes, once under Spanish rule, and bringing them to Spain, once under Moorish rule, Silva's work, closely cropped and in some ways impenetrable, is both interrogating the gaze and a history of occupations.

**Artist Biography:**

Born in 1976, Corinne Silva is a British artist living in London whose practice explores the use of the still and moving image to suggest metaphysical space. Her quiet, meditative visual language engages with the potentials and restrictions of lens-based media and the evolving relationship between politics, landscape and art histories. Silva forms imaginary landscapes that connect ideas of human mobility and porous frontiers to translate, re-organise and re-construct material landscape. While her work emerges out of late twentieth-century critical and conceptual theories on landscape practice, Silva subverts these visual languages by avoiding both the disinterested gaze and the 'monumental' landscape. Her photographic and video works create new narrative possibilities through disrupting traditional modes of landscape image production and refusing a definitive or authoritarian position.

After graduating from a BA in Photography at Nottingham Trent University and Universidad de Barcelona in 2002 and from a Photography MA at the University of Brighton in 2007, Silva completed her practice-based PhD at the London College of Communication in 2013. She is now a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Photography and the Archive Research Centre, University of the Arts London. Recent group and solo exhibitions include *Gardening the Suburbs* at the Makan Art Space in Amman (2014); *I See Europe!* at the Kunstbezirk in Stuttgart (2013); the Brighton Photo Biennial and The Photographer's Gallery (2012); the Flash Forward festival in Toronto and Boston in 2011/2012; *Wandering Abroad* at the National Media Museum/Ways of Looking Festival in Bradford, UK, (2011); *Imported Landscapes* at Manifesta 8 in Murcia, Spain, (2010); *Badlands* at the Noorderlicht Photofestival, Netherlands (2010); and *Wandering Abroad* at Leeds Art Gallery, UK, (2009). Silva also won the Magenta Foundation Flash Forward Award in 2010 and 2011 and was resident artist at the A.M. Qattan Foundation, Ramallah in 2013 and 2014.

Text from *My Sister Who Travels Exhibition Catalogue*.