

Title: Beauty that Is Neither New Nor Historical - Chicago Architecture Biennial 2017
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My personal favorite project was the Chicago Series, by architect and photographer Philipp Schaerer. His previous work concentrated on making enigmatic monuments - or at least what appeared to be documentation of such solid structures - out of images of walls he doctored to bring out their most abstract qualities while liberating them from the role of cladding or support structures. In this series, he started with satellite photographs of roofs, and then manipulated them into collages. The results are completely divorced from their origins, turning into images that evoked the contemplative possibilities of abstraction and collage in a manner that mashes up Piet Mondrian and Kurt Schwitters.