Artist Lisa Stinner-Kun will give a conceptual survey of her photographic work in this lecture. She will frame her discussion around her three continuing bodies of work, vague terrain, Restoration and Construct. All of these projects are concerned with the photographic reconstruction of the human-built environment. In vague terrain, these built environments are found within spaces that are either marginalized and forgotten, or built to be temporary. Restoration focuses on garden/wilderness landscapes undergoing rejuvenation and/or maintenance. And with her newest project, Construct, she is focusing on subject matter found on the sites of major construction projects.

Although the spaces represented in all three photographic projects are widely diverse, the common purpose of each resulting image is to transform the accidental configuration of objects-within-a-space into an intentional-looking tableau. By turning the initial subject matter into a unique sculptural version of itself—with the disorder of reality becoming a still life through the photographic process—Stinner-Kun strips away the visual references to each space’s original function. She often uses the conceptual model of a museum diorama to describe her photographs, focusing on the constructed nature of a scene to create a new reality.

Since graduating from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago with a MFA in Photography, Lisa Stinner-Kun has shown her photographic work in exhibitions locally, nationally and internationally. She has received numerous grants and scholarships for her photographic work, and in 2013 was awarded a grant from the Canada Council for the Arts. A recent exhibition (titled Second House First, a collaborative project with the AA School of Architecture in London), was shown at RAW Gallery in Winnipeg, and is now travelling to the AA in London and then will be exhibited at UCLA’s Architecture and Urban Design School. Stinner-Kun has taught (in recent years) at the University of Manitoba’s School of Art, where she received her BFA. Stinner-Kun currently teaches at Martha Street Studio and was an artist mentor this past year with Mentoring Artists for Women’s Art.