

# DOWNTOWN EXPRESS

## Buhmann on Art

March 13, 2014 |



LEFT: Katherine Newbegin: "Hotel Turist (Chisinau, Moldova)" (C-Print, 2007, 40 x 50 inches). Part of "Vacant," at Lesley Heller Workspace. RIGHT: Katherine Newbegin: "Room 11 (Phnom Penh, Cambodia)" (2009, Digital C-Print, 30 x 40 inches). Part of "Vacant," at Lesley Heller Workspace, March 16-April 20. Image courtesy of the artist and Lesley Heller Workspace

### **KATHERINE NEWBEGIN: VACANT**

For the past nine years, Newbegin has photographed vacant spaces of leisure, travel and transitional occupancy. She tracked down numerous gigantic Soviet-era hotels for example, which were built by the government for nation-building purposes and which were often used as a reward for the best workers of the Soviet Union. Since then, they have become obsolete relics. All of the spaces Newbegin photographs still reflect traces of the human activities that have taken place in them. It is this glimpse of realities past that provides these pictures with a distinct eerie quality.

*March 16-April 20, at Lesley Heller Workspace (54 Orchard St., btw. Hester & Grand Sts.). Hours: Wed.-Sat., 11am-6pm, Sun. 12-6pm. Reception: March 16, 6-8pm. Call 212-410-6120 or visit [lesleyheller.com](http://lesleyheller.com).*