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CALENDAR

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by Holly Myers

The passing of time in Munich

Joachim Brohm's "Areal" is a 10-year, 300-image project documenting the shift of a 23-acre site in northern Munich from ragged industrial zone to well-mannered urban development. A portion of the series, which has never been exhibited outside of Europe, is now on display at Gallery Luisotti for the L.A. International Biennial. Though decidedly unsentimental, photographs convey a scrupulous familiarity with the area and, like much contemporary German photography, a rapt attention to the dynamics of architecture and space.

The images tend to hinge upon phases of mobility or transition, but the pace feels glacial. Some buildings are perpetually going up, some crumbling endlessly into decline. Cars and trucks seem parked indefinitely. Even the rare human being, whether on foot or bicycle, looks as if he is suspended in time.

With only a fraction of the entire series on display (16 photographs in all, plus two from another series), it is difficult to fully appreciate the chronological arc encompassed by the project and the nuances of Brohm's attention to it. Instead, the show leaves one longing for a full tour.

Gallery Luisotti, Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave., Santa Monica, (310)453-0043, through Aug. 23. Closed Sundays and Mondays.