

# ARTFORUM

I N T E R N A T I O N A L

Marco Maggi

Author: Lori Waxman  
05.06.03

04.24.03-06.07.03 Cristinerose/Josee Bienvenue Gallery, New York

The mind can easily get lost in both the infinitesimal (a swarm of bacteria under a microscope) and the vast (the solar system); both extremes are transportingly far from our own order of magnitude. Marco Maggi's meticulously incised sculptures and drawings offer the eye seemingly magnified or miniaturized views of what might be cities of the future, Aztec cosmologies, circuit boards, or biological growths. Reams of letter-size paper, stacked and spread over the gallery floor, have been just-barely sliced, folded, and tucked into geometric shapes; these interventions are barely visible save for the shadows they cast. In another work, elaborate drypoint scratchings radiate across the surfaces of framed sheets of aluminum foil, Plexiglas, and clay board. And a handful of apples, their skins pierced and engraved, have dried into misshapen forms that sit creepily in a row along the narrow bottom ridge of a picture frame. Though the materials on which Maggi makes his marks are commonplace, his impossibly precise patterns pull the viewer out of real life and into a world normally invisible to the naked eye—a welcome relief these days.