

STEPHEN SHORE

THE BIOGRAPHICAL LANDSCAPE: The Photography of Stephen Shore, 1968 - 1993

November 12, 2005 to January 15, 2006.

The focus of Stephen Shore's exhibition *The Biographical Landscape* is his classic body of work known as *Uncommon Places*. This work was produced between 1973 and 1982 and now resides among the seminal images of the American vernacular landscape.

Stephen Shore began making photographs at an early age and by fourteen his photographs had already been purchased by Edward Steichen for the collection at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. When Shore was seventeen he was a regular at Andy Warhol's Factory, an experience that he described as his substitute for going to university. In 1971, at the age of twenty four, Shore became the first living photographer to have a one-person exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

Shore was among the first artists to take colour photography beyond the domain of advertising and fashion photography. His large-format work on the American vernacular landscape stands at the root of what has become a vital photographic tradition over the past thirty years.

Shore's project, which eventually became known as *Uncommon Places*, has influenced a generation of photographers. Thomas Struth, in a clear homage, titled his first book *Unconscious Places*. The crowded emptiness of Andreas Gursky's early work seems to literally grow out Shore's 1970s photographs. The angst of the empty street, streets that Shore discovered and more or less invented at a time when Atget had been almost forgotten, became a hallmark of 1980s Jeff Wall pictures.

Since 1982 Shore has been director of the Photography Department at Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, New York. This is Shore's first exhibition in Vancouver since his participation in a small group show at the Nova Gallery in 1977.

The exhibition is curated by Stephan Schmidt-Wulffen and circulated by APERTURE FOUNDATION in New York, who have also produced the accompanying publication *STEPHEN SHORE: Uncommon Places, The Complete Works*.

ARTIST'S TALK

November 12th at 2:00 PM

Please join us for a talk by Stephen Shore, Saturday November 12, 2:00pm,
at the South Building Lecture Hall, Room 328 at Emily Carr Institute, Granville Island

OPENING RECEPTION

November 12th at 7:00 PM

Opening reception and book signing at Presentation House Gallery from 7:00pm until late.

Note that we are **open during the holidays** this year: bring your friends and family on December 28, 29 and 30, noon to 5:00 Friday & Saturday and noon to 9:00pm on Thursday December 29.