

For Immediate Release:

## STEPHEN SHORE

525 West 22<sup>nd</sup> Street  
May 28 – July 17, 2009

Opening Reception: Thursday May 28, from 6:00 - 8:00 pm.



303 Gallery is proud to present its fourth exhibition of photographs by Stephen Shore. Renowned for his pioneering use of color photography, Shore will here present pieces from two lesser-known bodies of black and white work. Shore's photographs are usually known for their quiet contemplation of the beauty of empty or overlooked space and the arbitrary nature of vantage point. The serenity of serial banality is played down in the black and white works, however. Given over to a more interactive viewpoint, the work is not purely observational, but implicates the photographer as a situationist rather than a simple documentarian.

In a series of works from *The Velvet Years*, Shore spent time at Warhol's Factory in the mid-1960s, and photographed what he saw. From practice sessions between members of the Velvet Underground, to Edie Sedgwick photo shoots, famous visitors, late-night parties and their aftermaths, Shore captured what was to become art history. The characters in the images are intimate and personable, the artifice of the spotlight shed in service of the utility of the everyday process of creating artwork. The seemingly instant compositions point to Shore's later work, but aside from their value as archival documents, the images illustrate just how The Factory as a machine went on to inform the comprehensive view Shore would take of life becoming art.

A more recent body of work, *Intersections*, is comprised of photographs taken in New York in 2000. In each of these scenes, Shore exposes a single 4"x10" inch negative (half a sheet of 8"x10" film) to create a panoramic view of pedestrian and street traffic on local corners. Freezing each chaotic moment in time, the large-scale images serve to peel back the dense layers of interaction in public, transient space. The photographer creates the landscape, with the myriad textures and possibilities that one's eyes may be trained on at any moment given a mindful place to exist amidst the bombardment of the modern city.

Stephen Shore had solo shows at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York in 1971, and the Museum of Modern Art in 1976. In 2004 Aperture published "Uncommon Places: The Complete Works" and organized a traveling retrospective of Shore's work titled "The Biographical Landscape" that traveled through European and American venues including the Jeu De Paume, Paris, the Armand Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, and the International Center for Photography, New York. The Roger Ballen Foundation in South Africa arranged "Stephen Shore: Colouring American Photography" in Cape Town in 2008. In 2005 Shore's "American Surfaces" body of work was published by Phaidon Press and exhibited at P.S. 1 Contemporary Art Center, NY. "A Road Trip Journal" was published by Phaidon Press in 2008, a page by page facsimile of Shore's journal as he drove across the United States in 1973. He is currently included in "Into the Sunset: Photography's Image of the American West" at the Museum of Modern Art, New York. Shore is the Director of the photography program at Bard College, where he is the Susan Weber Professor in the Arts.

**303 Gallery represents the work of Doug Aitken, Laylah Ali, Valentin Carron, Anne Chu, Thomas Demand, Inka Essenhigh, Hans-Peter Feldmann, Ceal Floyer, Karel Funk, Maureen Gallace, Tim Gardner, Rodney Graham, Mary Heilmann, Jeppe Hein, Karen Kilimnik, Florian Maier-Aichen, Nick Mauss, Mike Nelson, Kristin Oppenheim, Djordje Ozbolt, Eva Rothschild, Collier Schorr, Stephen Shore, David Thorpe, and Jane and Louise Wilson.**

303 Gallery is open Tuesday-Saturday from 10 am - 6 pm. For further information please visit us at [www.303gallery.com](http://www.303gallery.com) or contact Lisa Spellman, Mari Spirito or Barbara Corti.