

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

8/9/06

WHAT: Exhibition, Opening Reception: **Beat Streuli/ Cities 2001-2005**

WHEN: **Wednesday, September 20, 2006, 6 – 8PM**

SPECIAL EVENT: In Conversation 7:00PM: Artist Beat Streuli and Fraser Stables, Assistant Professor, Smith College Department of Art, discuss photography and video within the context of this exhibition.

WHERE: **University Gallery, Fine Arts Center, UMass Amherst**

For more information please check the University Gallery website:
www.umass.edu/fac/universitygallery

The University Gallery takes great pleasure in announcing the opening of an exhibition of video work by the internationally acclaimed Swiss-born artist, BEAT STREULI, on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2006, from 6-8pm.

Streuli has developed an impressive body of work in photography and video that documents the transient pedestrian activity of urban life. His images of people moving through and among one another blur the line between portraying anonymity and individuality. His art is fuelled by his interest in the movements of people in large cities around the world, in Asia, Europe, the U.S., Africa, and Australia. The dramatically slowed video images, which represent an ever-changing sea of pedestrians -- bodies and faces navigating through a given city -- offer a moving social portrait of contemporary society. "Streuli's images are typically suggestive and ambiguous, and precisely because they so often depict people in transition, they effectively conjure an entire rolling era marked by restlessness, wandering, speed, and displacement." -- Gregory Volk, independent curator and writer for "Art in America".

Beat Streuli's exhibition at the University Gallery will be the artist's first exhibition in the U.S. to focus solely on his video work produced over the last five years. He has exhibited widely throughout the world since 1990 in

exhibitions at the Palais de Tokyo in Paris, the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago, the ICP in New York, the MMK in Frankfurt, among many others.

For his exhibition at the University Gallery, Beat Streuli, in collaboration with Atopia Projects, will produce "Bruxelles Midi", a specially commissioned Artist's Book. Twenty copies are released with an original photograph by Streuli, signed and numbered by the artist.

PUBLIC PROGRAM

There will be a free public lecture, "BEYOND STREET PHOTOGRAPHY: BEAT STREULI", on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12 at 7:00pm by the renowned art historian and critic MICHAEL FRIED, at Flavin Auditorium, Isenberg School of Management.

Michael Fried is the J.R. Herbert Boone Professor of Humanities and the Director of the Humanities Center at Johns Hopkins University. He is currently writing a book on contemporary photography.

The presentation of this exhibition is generously funded by the Pro Helvetia Foundation, Switzerland, and the Fondation Nestlé Pour l'Art, with additional support from the Swiss Consulate in Boston; Murray Guy Gallery, New York; and Galerie Erna Hecey, Brussels.

Free and open to the public

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