

STEPHEN WIRTZ GALLERY

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LAURIE REID

Vivid

JOSEPH STERLING

Age of Adolescence

October 3-November 9, 2002

Opening Reception: Thursday, October 3 from 5:30-7:30 pm

The STEPHEN WIRTZ GALLERY is pleased to announce the exhibitions of new works by LAURIE REID and vintage photographs by JOSEPH STERLING.

LAURIE REID has a unique approach to making watercolors. Unlike traditional watercolorists, Reid embraces the sculptural effects created by the buckling and puckering of water on white sheets of rag paper. The results invite the viewer to be slowly swept up and taken by the lines, curves, and dots on the paper. Reid enjoys making visual references to literature and text through her placement of dots and marks, seemingly both random and orderly at the same time. Several years ago, Reid's interest shifted away from representation as subject matter towards line and the effects of water on paper. She explores the ways in which water, atmosphere, gravity, paper and pigment intersect and how they interact with one another.

LAURIE REID (b.1964, Minneapolis, MN) was included in the *2000 Biennial Exhibition* at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. She was a *1998 SECA Art Award* recipient (Society for the Encouragement of Contemporary Art) and as a result was given an exhibition at SFMOMA. Reid's work is in the permanent collections of SFMOMA, Philadelphia Museum of Art and Berkeley Art Museum among others.

"JOSEPH STERLING's photographs were intended to evoke, both artistically and symbolically, the world of the adolescent, rather than seeking any ideal of sociological completeness or aiming to reveal the causes of particular social problems. Robert Frank's work served as inspiration; Bruce Davidson's as confirmation. In fact, Sterling's specific the culture of American teenagers, and the duration of his effort, distinguish his pictures from those of either of these artists. Sterling made photographs that are distinctly, eloquently, his own." Excerpt taken from Keith F. Davis' essay in the catalogue *Joseph Sterling's Age of Innocence, photographs from 1959-1964*.

JOSEPH STERLING (b.1936, El Paso, TX) received his B.S. degree in 1959 and his M.S. degree in 1962 from the Institute of Design in Chicago. He studied under Harry Callahan, Aaron Siskind and Frederick Sommer. His work is included in the collections of The Museum of Modern Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Chicago Art Institute, Institute of Design, Chicago, and The Hallmark Photographic Collection, Kansas City, MO among others. Sterling continues to live and work at his home outside Chicago.

For additional information, please contact Ellen Mahoney (415)433-6879 or ellen@wirtzgallery.com.

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