

Fraenkel Gallery

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

ROBERT ADAMS

Gone? Colorado in the 1980s

11 March – 17 April 2010

In middle age I revisited a number of marginal but beautiful landscapes that I had taken for granted when I was a boy. As I walked through them I sometimes asked myself whether in the coming years they would survive overpopulation, corporate capitalism, and new technology. On those days when I was lucky, however, my questions fell away into the quiet and the light.

- R.A.

Fraenkel Gallery is pleased to announce **ROBERT ADAMS: *Gone?***, an exhibition of photographs made in Colorado in the mid-1980s. The subject of a new book published by Steidl, the photographs will be on view from March 11 to April 17, 2010.

After an extended stay in southern California where Adams worked with a 4x5" view camera, he returned to his well-loved Colorado in 1984. Equipped with a new 28mm lens for his Nikon, Adams discovered unexpected possibilities afforded by the hand-held camera and wide-angle lens.

Wandering the Colorado plains, the mountains west of Denver, and the San Luis valley abutting the Mexican border, *Gone?* is as much a walking meditation as a photographic study. Light's multifarious manifestations sustain this work, saturating a field, glistening through trees. Here Adams found a buoyancy of spirit that complements his better-known work addressing urban growth.

In 2009, Adams was the recipient of the prestigious Hasselblad Foundation International Award in Photography. His numerous monographs include *The New West*, *From the Missouri West*, *Los Angeles Spring*, *To Make It Home*, *Listening to the River*, *West From the Columbia*, *California*, and *Turning Back*. Later this year, his life's work will be the subject of a major retrospective and a multi-volume monograph organized by the Yale University Art Gallery.

It has been many years now since I left Colorado, and occasionally friends there tell me of what has been lost. We share our griefs, but not infrequently the conversation turns to recollecting scarcely believable glories — near miracles — and we pledge to look again.

- R.A.

Fraenkel Gallery is located at 49 Geary Street, 4th floor, San Francisco.

Hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10:30 am - 5:30 pm, & Saturday 11:00 am - 5:00 pm.

For further information and press photographs, please contact Dan Check at 415.981.2661 or dcheck@fraenkelgallery.com.

*Robert Adams, *Untitled*, ca. 1984-87