

# Fraenkel Gallery

49 GEARY STREET SAN FRANCISCO 94108

415 981 2661 TEL

415 981 4014 FAX

For immediate release



## Robert Adams 27 Roads

September 6 – October 20, 2018

**FRAENKEL GALLERY**  
49 Geary Street, San Francisco

**Robert Adams: 27 Roads**, a tightly-focused group of photographs spanning almost five decades, will be on view at Fraenkel Gallery from September 6 through October 20, 2018.

The road has been a central motif in the work of Robert Adams since the beginning of his life as a photographer, and *27 Roads* is the first exhibition to focus on this fundamental aspect of his work. Whether concrete highways, quiet cuts through dark forests, paved commercial strips or dusty tracks on a clear-cut mountainside, Adams' roads serve as thoughtful metaphors for solitude, connection or freedom.

The exhibition features photographs from Adams' most well-known and treasured series dating from 1968 to 2013, including *The New West*, *Denver*, *Prairie*, *From the Missouri West*, *California*, *Listening to the River*, and *An Old Forest Road*. Over many years of exploring this theme, Adams has been drawn to writers who contemplate the symbolism of the road, and the potential of any neglected dirt road or byway to be a place of value. Among the poets who inspired Adams are Wendell Berry, who wrote in *The Timbered Choir*: "There is a day/when the road neither/comes nor goes, and the way/is not a way but a place."

*27 Roads* is accompanied by a new, exquisitely printed hardcover catalogue, distributed by Artbook/D.A.P. and available at [fraenkelgallery.com](http://fraenkelgallery.com) (\$65). In the book Adams writes, "Roads can still be beautiful. Occasionally they appear like a perfect knife slicing through a perfect apple, the better to show that two halves are one."

In the fall of 2019, Adams will be the subject of the major traveling retrospective *American Silence: The Photographs of Robert Adams, 1965–2015*, organized by The National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. Through July 29, 2018, The Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson in Paris is spotlighting Adams' work in the monographic exhibition, *Robert Adams: Our Lives and Our Children*. Among awards he has received in acknowledgement of his achievement are Guggenheim and MacArthur Foundation fellowships, the Deutsche Börse Photography Prize, and the Hasselblad Foundation International Award in Photography.

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For press inquiries and images, please contact Rebecca Herman at 415.981.2661 or [rherman@fraenkelgallery.com](mailto:rherman@fraenkelgallery.com)

IMAGE: ROBERT ADAMS, *Along Federal Highway 287. North of Laporte, Larimer County, Colorado, 1977*  
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