enigmas

Photographs by Andrew Feenberg



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Design: Soyoung Park

Enigmas

Photographs by Andrew Feenberg

The walker in the city sees many things and understands few of them. Snatches of conversation, glimpses of happenings, intuitions of relations pass in kaleidoscopic variation. Amidst this cascade of mostly trivial experiences there are a few gems, moments of significance that deserve to be remembered or perhaps photographed. The significant moments are signalled by a shock, the shock of the unexpected or bizarre or profound.

Shock appears in the writings of the culture critic Walter Benjamin as an essential category of modern life. The city is the place of chance encounter, of the stimulus of the new, of the visible movement of time as fashions change with startling rapidity. With Baudelaire as his guide, Benjamin explores the world of the *flaneur*. Shock is the emphatic presence of the crowd, the sudden glance of recognition between strangers, the vacant lot where used to be a building, the parade of bums and beggars.

The *flaneur* with a camera can record a small sample of this rich field of urban life. The photographer edits reality, leaving context on the cutting room floor. Only the essential moment remains, and it is often as incomprehensible as it is evocative. If its original shock value passes through the lens something is preserved from the ephemera of the street. This exhibit presents the enigmatic results.

Painter Painted





Hidden Beauty

San Jose

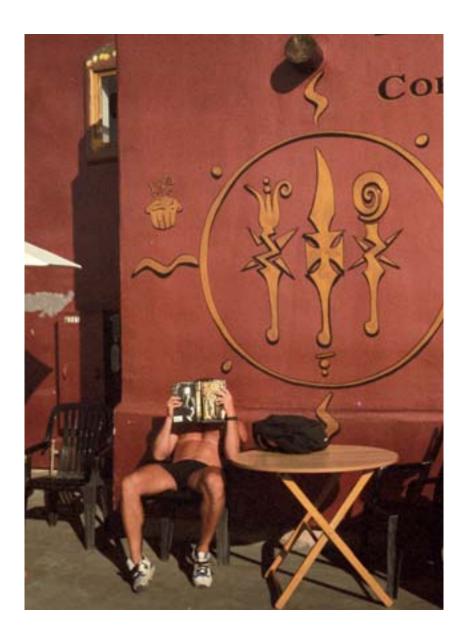


Blue Buddha

Santa Fe



Buddha Watches La Jolla



California Reading

San Diego



Before the Show



Pride on Show



Dance of Color

San Diego

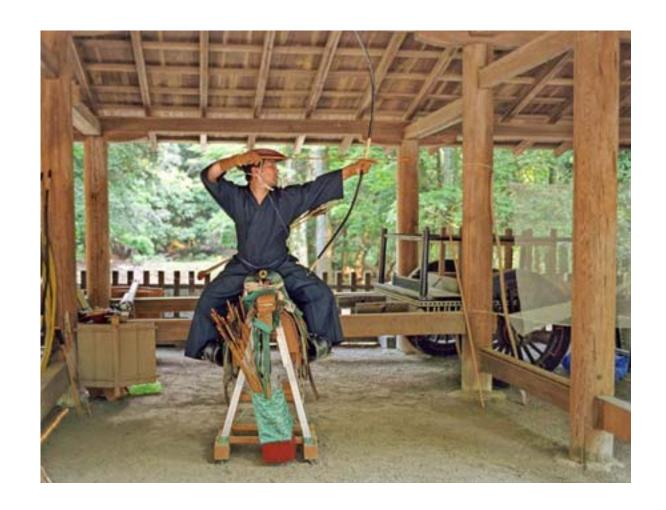


Cafe Color



Line of Sight

Rome



Steady Aim Nara

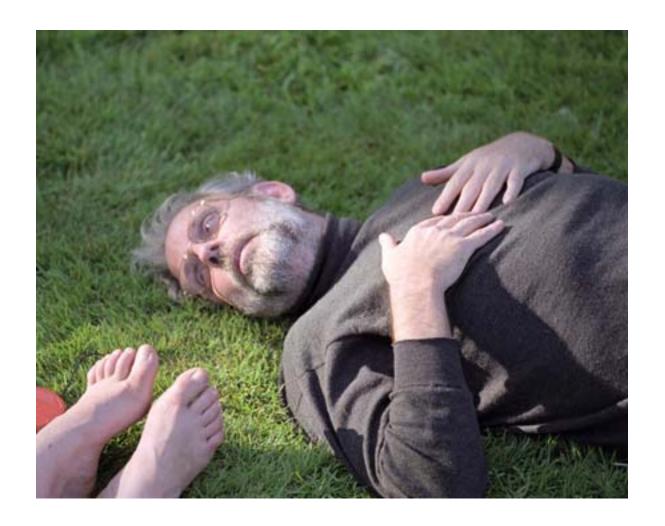


Long and Winding

Marin



Big Deal Santa Fe



Father and Daughter

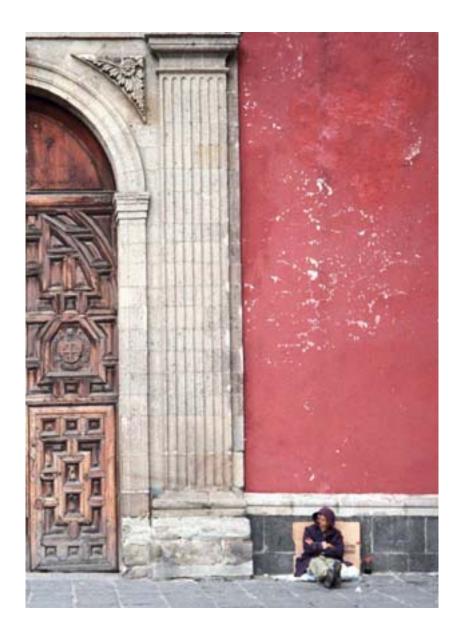


Saudade



Flying Fish

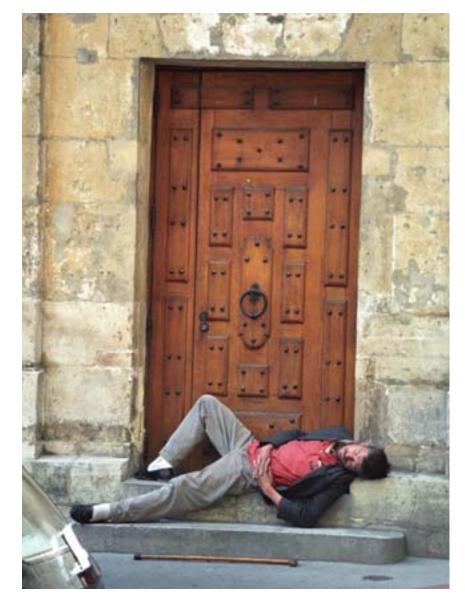
La Jolla



Shut Out

Mexico City

Sweet Dreams





Light and Shadow

La Jolla



Patience

San Diego



Kenzo



Wedding

Coronado



No Stopping

San Jose



Notre Dame Paris



Romance

La Jolla



Before the Concert Tokyo



Hands Paris



The Point

La jolla



Writ Large



Larger Paris

30



Masks



Eclipse



A-paco-lypse



The Constant Spectator



Cine Citta

Rome



The Power of Art



Success



Anima



Girl Power



Little Devils



Mc Do

Kyoto

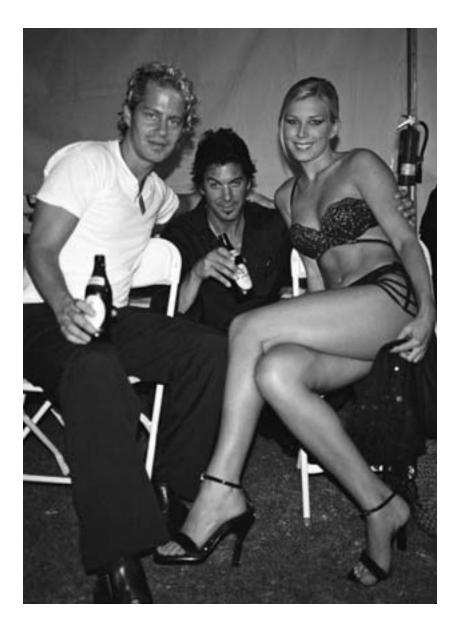


Nude



The Apero

Vaison-la-Romaine



Drinking Buddies

La Jolla



Boshi



Kimono Time



So Lovely



The Guys



Book End

La Jolla

The **enigmas** exhibit opened February 3, 2005 at the Exposure Gallery 851 beatty street, Vancouver British Columbia, Canada.



Photo: Sharc

Andrew Feenberg is Canada Research Chair in the Philosophy of Technology in the School of Communication of Simon Fraser University. He has taught at San Diego State University, the University of California, Irvine, the University of Paris, the University of Tokyo, Duke University and the State University of New York at Buffalo.

He is the author of Heidegger and Marcuse Transforming Technology, Questioning Technology, Alternative Modernity, Lukács, Marx and the Sources of Critical Theory, co-author of When Poetry Ruled the Streets, and co-editor of Technology and the Politics of Knowledge, Community in the Digital Age, and Modernity and Technology. He lives in Vancouver, British Columbia and La Jolla, California.