

M U R R A Y G U Y

453 WEST 17 STREET

NEW YORK NY 10011

TEL 212 463 7372

FAX 212 463 7319

WWW.MURRAYGUY.COM

BEAT STREULI

2 November – 21 December 2002



Murray Guy is pleased to announce their second solo show of Swiss photographer Beat Streuli.

In this exhibition five recent two-screen video works will be projected in one-week cycles each for the duration of the exhibition.

In the videos, shot in the shared and neutral territory of city streets around the world, Streuli reveals the infinite complexity of urban life, the ultimate social arena. From a chaotic plethora of information, he slows down the rush of human traffic to a chronicle of moments. The seemingly random, through the selective process of personal observation, instills the prosaic with drama and grace. Although the people depicted remain anonymous, a sense of individual lives emerges. We are implicated in the intimacy of these works through the shared experience of negotiating public space, the natural state of watching and being scrutinized by fellow urbanites.

George Street Bus Stop, 2001, filmed in Sydney, Australia, shows people in various states of anticipation and inaction. The slow motion of the already minimal action emphasizes idiosyncrasies of body language and enhances incidental details.

NYC 01/NYC 02, 2002, consists of a long sequence of dissolving stills of subway riders exiting Astor Place station, each image an individual portrait or group picture of characters often unknown to each other.

The Pallasades, 2001, filmed in Birmingham, UK, uses a fixed frame. A crowd of people approaches the camera in slow motion, creating an ever changing, moving picture.

BKK Siam Square, 2002, was shot in Bangkok in video, however the people sitting around the small square are often so immobile that the images sometimes feel like stills.

8th Avenue / 35th Street, 2002, shows a busy Manhattan intersection. The compressed space of the fixed frame is shared by pedestrians and the diverse street traffic of cars, trucks, cabs and buses in a rhythmic flow determined by the sequence of the traffic lights.

Streuli's video installation *Broadway/Prince Street*, was shown earlier this year in "Open City" at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington DC, and the slide projection *Bondi Beach/Parramatta Road* in "Restaging the Everyday", an exhibition of new acquisitions at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. His window installation of transparent photographs, *Chicago*, will be reinstalled this Fall at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago. A further large-scale window installation is on permanent view at the Palais de Tokyo, Paris. Beat Streuli lives in Düsseldorf, Germany.