

OPENING SEPTEMBER 14, 1999

JOHN RIDDY PHOTOGRAPHS OF ROME

at Lawrence Markey Gallery September 14 – October 23, 1999

The exhibition will consist of black and white photographs (silver gelatin prints) taken by Riddy during his four month stay in Rome, earlier this year, as a Fellow at the British School at Rome.

John Riddy's photographs involve a singular exploration of places and spaces -- architectural subjects, and their surroundings. Riddy's works -- exquisitely printed silver gelatin prints -- are often characterized by stillness and silence. Generally, but not always, absent of human activity or intervention, these photographs consistently possess formal clarity and restraint.

In Riddy's words:

*Architecture lets you talk about the presence/absence of people, and about place at the same time. The description of space on a piece of paper, by recording the effect of light on surfaces and all the complexities that entails, is what I love to do. The issues of silence, the possibility that a photograph can defeat your own expectation of what it contains or talks about when you take it, the basic physical act of walking around and "stopping" the world by making an image that is somehow energized from within, are all important to me.*

John Riddy lives and works in London.

This will be the first exhibition of the work of John Riddy in New York City.

Riddy's photographs have recently been exhibited at Frith Street Gallery, London, and at Galerie Paul Andriessse, Amsterdam.

A survey exhibition of Riddy's photographs is scheduled to open in March, 2000, at the Camden Arts Centre, London.

A fully illustrated publication, John Riddy *Rome*, has been published on the occasion of this exhibition, and is available.