



Karl Baden: Roadside Attraction
January 4 - February 5, 2013

Karl Baden's world is crammed with the visual. Even the negative spaces in these pictures are active and teeming with energy. The world presses its nose up against Karl Baden's car window.

Karl Baden's oeuvre is varied and eclectic. Historically informed and armed with humor, Baden points an ironic finger at the world. He has dipped his camera into the likes of Lange, Edgerton, and Strand in his "Sex, Death, and the History of Photography" series. He has engaged banal repetition and conceptualism - in his "Every Day" series, a self-portrait taken every single day since February 23, 1987.

In *Roadside Attraction*, this lexicon comes to greet the real world - though not unprotected. Through the shield of laminated safety glass, Baden exposes the view from his eye. Framed by his car's perceptions, this world is wacky, quizzical, and incomprehensible. Spaces are inside out, and it takes time for your perception to settle - Where is he? What is that? Is he DRIVING? These are slow photographs; their content leaks out of those odd angles at its own pace.

The sharp, solid angle of a brick corner, the chaos of an untamed garage, the negative space of a doughnut hole. Baden's pictures take on radically different forms to address the complexity of his true subject matter - our defunct relationships with the space around us. How much of our worlds do we experience through the frames of our cars? As always, Baden takes on his dark inquiry into our social psyche with a gentle smirk.

Please join us for an opening reception from 6 - 8 pm on January 4, 2013.