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Photography Exhibition and Lecture
Jeff Jacobson: *Melting Point*

"I live in a meltdown period, when old norms of politics, religion, and even photography are changing"

Jeff Jacobson, *Melting Point*

Exhibition: January 18 – March 20, 2011
Reception: Thursday, February 3, 6:30 – 8:00 pm
PRC Gallery, 832 Commonwealth Ave., Boston

Lecture: Tuesday, March 8
Jeff Jacobson in Dialogue with David Strick
BU Photonics Building, Room 206, 8 St. Mary's Street, Boston

For high resolution images, visit:
<http://www.bostonphotographyfocus.org/ftp/jacobson.zip>

BOSTON--The Photographic Resource Center is pleased to announce its upcoming exhibition of large-scale color prints by Jeff Jacobson.

Melting Point reflects over 20 years of Jeff Jacobson's observations of what he describes as "a meltdown period, when old norms of politics, religion and even photography are changing.... In working from the paradox of a curious melding of beauty and fear these photographs emerged."

In the book of the same title published by Nazraeli Press, Jacobson describes the arc from his childhood in Iowa to watching the World Trade Center disintegrate fifty years later.

"At the height of the Cold War in 1950s Iowa, we did duck and cover air raid drills in school. Crouching under my desk with my hands folded over my head, I remember wondering that if the atomic bomb could melt my flesh right off my bones, how was this battered wooden desk supposed to protect me. Something was seriously awry. Fifty years later I stood on the Jersey shore of the Hudson and saw the World Trade Center disintegrate."

While photographing the American presidential campaign in 1976 Jacobson began using color film—Kodachrome, particularly—in innovative ways, branching out from the black-and-white norms that dominated documentary-style photography at the time.

His photography has been widely recognized and collected since the 1970s. He has been published in *The New York Times Magazine*, *Fortune*, *Time*, *Geo*, *Stern*, *Life*, and elsewhere, including a regular

spot on Visura, an online magazine. His photographs are in the permanent collections of the Whitney Museum of American Art, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Museum of Fine Art Houston, George Eastman House (Rochester, NY), Center for Creative Photography (Tucson, AZ), and The Joy of Giving Society (NYC).

The prints in the Melting Point series were exhibited at the Peer Gallery in New York in late 2006. *Melting Point* (Nazraeli, 2006) was his second monograph; his first was *My Fellow Americans* (University of New Mexico Press, 1991). His next book, about the relationship between photography and mortality, is in progress and carries the working title of "The Last Roll."

Jacobson was born in Des Moines, Iowa in 1946 and currently lives in Mt. Tremper, New York. He graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1968 and the Georgetown University Law Center (Washington, D.C.) in 1971. He began photographing in the southeastern United States while working as a lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union. By 1974 he abandoned his law practice and committed himself fulltime to photography. (more)

David Strick, a long-time friend and colleague of Jacobson's, shoots a combination of portraiture and Hollywood documentary photography for clients including Time, Sempra Energy, The Gap, and Paramount Pictures. For the last eight years he has had a monthly behind-the-scenes photo column in Premiere Magazine, called "David Strick's Hollywood" that allows him to pursue his longtime fascination with unseen aspects of the Hollywood entertainment industry. His book of this work, *Our Hollywood*, was published in 1088 by Atlantic Monthly Press. Strick was also the subject of a one-person PRC exhibition in 1994.

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