



## PANOPTICON GALLERY

Hotel Commonwealth • 502c Commonwealth Avenue • Boston, MA 02215

Phone: 617-267-8929 • Fax: 617-267-8920

www.panopt.com • gallery@panopt.com

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Isa Leshko ([marketing@panopt.com](mailto:marketing@panopt.com))

### *"Later That Night..."*

### Nocturnal Images by Christian Waeber

October 2-November 17 2008

Opening Reception: Thursday, October 30 5-7 PM

August 11, 2008, Boston, MA-Panopticon Gallery is pleased to present "Later That Night..." which consists of color photographs by Christian Waeber. The exhibit includes dreamlike nocturnal glimpses of deserted playgrounds, roads, and sidewalks in Boston and its suburbs.

Because Waeber photographs under low-light conditions, each of his exposures lasts for several minutes. Unlike daytime exposures that capture a brief instant in time, Waeber's long exposures record the passage of time and depict what the human eye cannot see. Moving objects such as clouds and stars adopt an ethereal blur. Lit areas in a scene appear to have an unearthly glow that is punctuated by starbursts of light. Shadows loom large and assume strange shapes.

Waeber uses the surreal effects of low-light photography to evoke the sense of trepidation and wonder he felt about nighttime as a child. "I am trying to find the way I used to perceive objects in the dark as a child," he states. "The most harmless objects became monsters; the sense of space and proportions was altered."

Born in Fribourg, Switzerland, Waeber moved to Boston, Massachusetts in 1993. After 15 years, the New England landscape remains an exotic locale for Waeber and maintains its grip on his imagination. "Because I am not familiar with the history of the places I visit, I am free to make up my own stories," he states. Waeber invites viewers to construct their own narratives when viewing his images, which is why he entitled this series, "Later that night..." He says: "A successful image acts as a seed in the viewer's imagination. It should grow and develop into a short story."

Waeber is a self-taught photographer whose work has been exhibited in solo and group shows in numerous local venues including Arlington Center for the Arts in Arlington, MA; Boston City Hall in Boston, MA, Bunker Hill Community College in Boston, MA; Club Passim in Cambridge, MA; Hynes Convention Center in Boston, MA; and Stebbins Gallery in Cambridge, MA. His work is included in *Darkness Darkness*, an exhibit on night photography that is currently hanging at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center and will be a traveling exhibit. During the day, he works as a researcher for the Neuroscience Center at Massachusetts General Hospital.

"Later that Night..." runs concurrently with "Miniatures", a show consisting of quiet color images of the Boston suburban landscape by Mara Brod. From 5-7 PM on October 30th, Panopticon Gallery will host a reception for both shows.

### **About Panopticon Gallery**

Founded in 1971, Panopticon Gallery is one of the oldest galleries in the United States dedicated solely to photography. The gallery specializes in 20th Century American photography and emerging contemporary photography.

Panopticon Gallery is located in the Hotel Commonwealth at 502c Commonwealth Avenue in Boston. It is conveniently situated near the Kenmore Square T stop on the Green Line. Driving directions are on the gallery web site. The gallery is staffed Tuesday through Friday, 10 AM to 6 PM and Saturday, 11 AM to 5 PM.

### **Photo Captions**

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"Dog Walker, Lowell, MA" © Christian Waeber courtesy of Panopticon Gallery, Boston, MA

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"Hopscotch" © Christian Waeber courtesy of Panopticon Gallery, Boston, MA