

## george harris photographic / artist statement of works 2002 - 2005

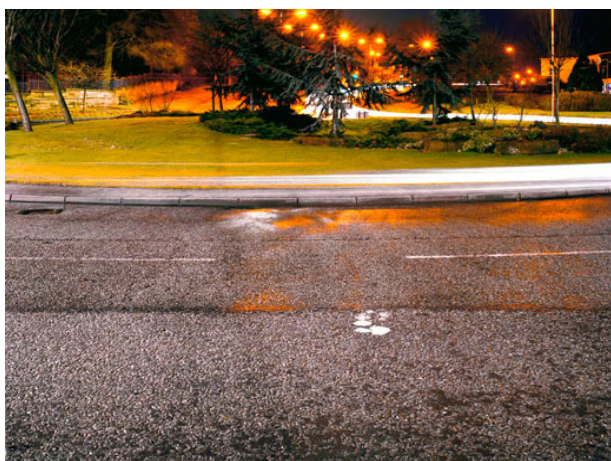
I am an artist/photographer that is currently based in Derby. I moved here from Cornwall in 1999 to study photography at the University of Derby, where I was influenced by the photography work of Lee Friedlander, The Dusseldorf School of Photography and the artist Rut Bles Luxemburg. Since graduating in 2002 I have set up and been involved with several exhibitions and projects within and outside of the region.

My photography is an intuitive response to the urban environment and social landscape surrounding me. This is a result of concentrated research as well as a lateral approach within the given subject matter. My interests lie in documenting spatial and temporal states of the urban landscape that take in places of meeting and change. My photography of late has concentrated on interiors of performance and living spaces; both works continue a look into temporal space.

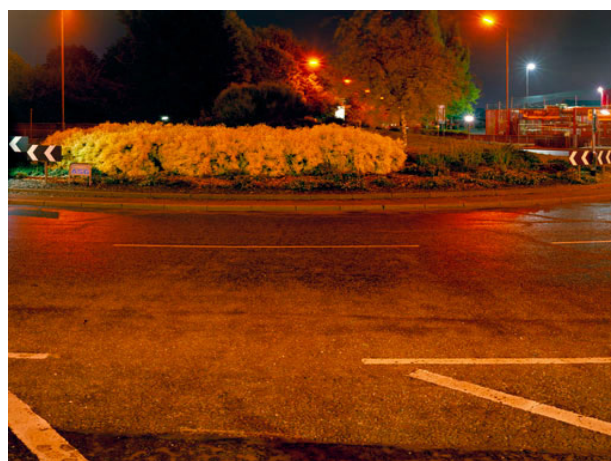
In all works, I have affected a beauty out of the isolation of empty space, through a use of black & white and dramatic colour photographs. The consistent theme of all my works so far has been their potential for the unexpected, a happening in the photographs that is within their austere, an underlying theatricality.

### Islands (2002)

Within this series of eight colour photographs that depict traffic islands at night, I have used the concept of an ideal place or destination. Havens for escape within the banal and modelled landscape; isolated junctures holding a jigsaw of repetition. This series was created for my degree, but I have exhibited twice since graduating.



island one / tropical



island ten / crash barrier

### Avenue (2003)

In this series of eight b/w photographs, I have been influenced by a stretch of landscape that has been designated for potential re-development. The work continues themes of an ideal landscape and place, but uses the concept of an Avenue as a barrier, coming through the emptiness of the image. The work was exhibited as part of a group exhibition called 'Groundswell' in 2003 as four photographs and two video pieces.



avenue / dual



avenue / village

### **Exeunt Dramatis Personae (2003)**

In this series of ten colour photographs, I have used the theatrical stage in a moment, void of audience and performers. As part of this work, I am celebrating a fragile existence, which shifts a space of entertainment and escapism to a place of temporal banality, leaving an air of expectancy. My interests in documenting places of entertainment reflect on what entertains us, as well as the lifespan of such space.



facing



final tango

### **The Waiting Room (2005)**

'The Waiting Room' closely examines housing and living space. It contextualises the many aspects of uncertainty surrounding this subject. The focus of the photographs is within the corners, exits and portals of each room, framed as squares and panoramic cuts of the spaces reflecting on a state of mind within the wider social landscape. Each photograph has been taken in that moment of prevailing stasis when a house has been just sold, put on the market for sale or recently vacated, alluding towards ideas of squats, asylum and unsettlement within an everyday living structure. Each location was found through researching with a local estate agent and the final work was exhibited within and part of Format 05.



house seven



house three

### **Other works, Commissions and new projects**

Aside from these projects I have also documented performance work by groups and musicians like Corey Mwamba, The Dust Collectors as well as a performance, theatre project called Polarities. In the Summer of 2005 I was commissioned by Bathysphere Arts to produce a set of photographs that were used as part of a film 'Confluence' within their Nanoplex cinema. I am currently working on new projects including research into office and corporate space as well as a commission for the Symbiosis Ensemble, under the title of 'Natures Glory Fancy's Child'.

### **contact and more information**

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