

# NEWS

from the Worcester Art Museum

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IMMEDIATE



## WORKS BY PHOTOGRAPHY LEGEND, STEPHEN SHORE, ON VIEW AT THE WORCESTER ART MUSEUM

**(WORCESTER, Mass., March 24, 2006)** – Stephen Shore is one of the most prominent and influential American photographers to emerge in the last half-century. When Shore was fourteen years old, he sold a selection of his photographs to Edward Steichen for the permanent collection at the Museum of Modern Art, New York. At eighteen, Shore began photographing Andy Warhol working in his studio, the Factory—creating one of the most comprehensive documentations of Warhol’s life. At twenty-four, Shore’s photographs were exhibited in his first solo exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art—this was the first solo show of a living photographer in the history of MoMA. Currently, Shore continues to participate in exhibitions around the world, and is the Susan Weber Soros Professor in the Arts at Bard College.

*Biographical Landscape: The Photography of Stephen Shore, 1968-1993*, is on view at the Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury Street, from Sunday, March 26 through Sunday, June 25, 2006.

*Biographical Landscape* is arranged chronologically, beginning with photographs taken on Stephen Shore’s first road-trip across the United States in 1973, and ending with pure landscape photographs that were taken between 1980 and 1993. Divided into three sections, this exhibition illustrates the artist development of style over a period of twenty-five years. Shore’s early pieces emphasize the Pop art dimension of his work. The second section of the exhibition—works from 1974-1976—illustrates Shore’s formal approach to reality, focusing on linear perspective. These large color images of the urban landscape—gas stations, Piggly Wigglys, street scenes and diner fare—remind viewers how their sense of vision changes quickly because of photography. The artist’s later work depicts landscapes that are devoid of perspective, which lies in direct contrast to his earlier work. Taken as a whole, Stephen Shore’s pictures provide a thorough map of what amounts to a lifetime of movements in space and time, creating a visual diary of the artists’ life.

Shore’s photographs are included in the permanent collections of the Art Institute of Chicago, Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, Library of Congress, Washington D.C., Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Fine Arts Boston, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and the Whitney Museum of American Art, among others. Shore is the recipient of two National Endowment for the Arts grants as well as a grant from the Guggenheim Foundation, and fellowships from both the American

Academy in Rome and MacDowell Colony. *Biographical Landscape: The Photography of Stephen Shore, 1968-1993*, has traveled to museums in Austria, France, Canada, England, as well as multiple locations within the US.

**Credits:**

*Biographical Landscape: The Photography of Steven Shore, 1968-1993*, was originally curated by Stephen Schmidt-Wulfefen. This installation of the exhibition at the Worcester Art Museum is curated by Dr. David Acton, Curator of Prints, Drawings and Photographs.

Aperture, a not-for-profit organization devoted to photography and the visual arts, has organized this traveling exhibition and produced the accompanying publications. The Worcester Art Museum presentation is supported by UnumProvident Corporation. Additional support provided by Worcester Telegram & Gazette, and WICN Public Radio 90.5 FM, New England's Jazz & Folk Station.

**RELATED EVENTS:**

**Opening Reception**

*Saturday, March 25, 6-9 pm*

Music / Hors d'oeuvres / Cash bar / Interesting People / Great Conversation

\$10 WAM Members / \$25 Non-members

**Artist Talk: Steven Shore**

*Saturday, May 7, 2 pm*

Conference Room

Free with Museum Admission

**About the Worcester Art Museum**

The Worcester Art Museum, which opened to the public in 1898, is world-renowned for its 35,000-piece collection of paintings, sculpture, decorative arts, photography, prints, drawings and new media. The works span 5,000 years of art and culture, ranging from ancient Roman mosaics to Colonial silver, Impressionist paintings and contemporary art. Dedicated to the promotion of art and art education, the Museum offers a year-round studio art and art appreciation program that enrolls over 6,000 adult and youth students each year. Public tours are offered Saturdays at 11 a.m. and Sundays at 1 p.m., September through May. Audio tours are also available in English and Spanish.

Museum hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursday, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. (evening hours sponsored by Commerce Bank), and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and full-time college students with current ID, and FREE for Members and all youth 17 and under. Admission is also FREE for everyone on Saturday mornings, 10 a.m.-noon (sponsored by The TJX Companies, Inc. and National Grid). The Museum is located at 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, Mass., easily accessible from the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90), Route 290 and Route 9. Free parking is available near entrances on Salisbury, Lancaster and Tuckerman streets. For more information, call (508) 799-4406 or visit the Museum web site at [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org).

**Electronic images available.**

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