

ROBERTS & TILTON

5801 Washington Boulevard
Culver City, CA 90232
T 323 549 0223
F 323 549 0224
www.robertsandtilton.com
info@robertsandtilton.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Ed Templeton

Memory Foam

January 12 – February 16, 2013

Opening Reception Saturday, January 12th 6 – 9 pm

Book Signing Saturday, January 12th at 5pm

Roberts & Tilton is pleased to announce an exhibition of recent photographs by Ed Templeton in his fifth exhibition with the gallery. Templeton has long mined the middle ground between the public and the private, delving unreservedly into the human situation, creating photographs that are at once heartbreaking and outrageous, comical and sinister, his images, a visual litmus test of American youth culture in all its twisted luminescence.

In his most recent exhibition, *Memory Foam*, Templeton takes a close look at his hometown of Huntington Beach, California, a sprawl of suburbia, "mile after mile of walls that form a hard shell around the housing tracts where beige brick dividers represent the barrier between people's backyards and the major street," or less obviously perhaps, a division between the sanitized ideals of a planned community and the real world. Templeton's choice to focus specifically on the "downtown" and Main Street, once a boulevard of skate shops, bikini stores and dive bars, where "people would hang out watching the fights between skinheads, jocks and local boys," represents a journey back to his old stomping grounds, redefining not only the artist's own personal relationship to his past, but to a larger cultural tapestry. Through these images, Templeton navigates his own unique history, and his experience as a professional skateboarder, painter and photographer, defined by Huntington Beach's particular brand of beach culture, now gentrified, yet still energetic and vital.

With these recent images, Templeton creates a visual lexicon of the people who live and work in Huntington Beach, telling their stories with sensitivity, wit and compassion. Templeton's photographs, as with his other work, rarely concerns itself with literal space and time, but more importantly and emphatically with an enigmatic and complicated human impulse to create anything at all, prompting the artist to "explore the love/hate relationship I have with this city," no longer taking it for granted, but celebrating the city as its own strangely compelling enigma.

Ed Templeton is a photographer, painter and two-time world champion professional skateboarder. His work was featured in the influential exhibition *Beautiful Losers*, curated by Aaron Rose as well as *Art in the Streets* at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles. Upcoming exhibitions include solo presentations in Italy, Belgium, France and, in 2014, a solo exhibition at the Museum of Contemporary Art (MACO) Oaxaca, Mexico. Selected recent exhibitions include S.M.A.K., Ghent, Belgium; the ARKEN Museum of Modern Art, Copenhagen, Denmark; SCHUNK Glaspaleis, The Netherlands; Kunsthalle Vienna, Austria and the 2010 Photography Biennial at MAMAK Liege, Belgium. Templeton's work has been the subject of 8 monographs to date.

Gallery hours are Tuesday – Saturday, 11:00am – 6:00pm.

Roberts & Tilton is located between Fairfax Avenue and La Cienega Boulevard.

Parking is available on the street and at Dunn Edwards located 1/2 block east of the gallery.

For additional information, please contact Mary Skarbek at mary@robertsandtilton.com or 323.549.0223.



Ed Templeton *Baby Walks Shadow*, 2012
Black and white photograph
20 x 16 in (50.8 x 40.64 cm)