



JEREMY SHAW *Something's Happening Here*

A year-long public poster project, March 1, 2009 to February 28, 2010

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Jeremy Shaw, Expo 86 "Don't Miss it for the World", 1986, 2009, Offset lithograph, 11.7" x 24"

Presentation House Gallery is pleased to announce the launch of a year-long public art project with Vancouver artist and musician Jeremy Shaw. *Something's Happening Here* is a series of posters mounted as part of the 2009 Cultural Olympiad that celebrates and memorializes the legacy of Vancouver's last major civic event, Expo '86. Images include current and archival photographs of buildings and sites from the iconic World's Fair, as well as news articles, promotional materials, and souvenir ephemera from the era. The images are used to create twenty-six unique posters that will be distributed—approximately one every second week—across Vancouver beginning in March 2009 and continuing over one year through to the completion of the 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

Something's Happening Here joins an ongoing dialogue on how global events like Expo and the Olympics impact on civic space through an architectural legacy of buildings and monuments, and significantly, how such events live on through a collective civic memory. In redeploying images that invoke the city's recent past, *Something's Happening Here* affects a recuperative snapshot of Vancouver on the cusp of an historic new moment, while memorializing an era of a city that sometimes appears unrecognizable a mere twenty-three years after the fact.

Something's Happening Here builds both materially and conceptually on Shaw's artistic practice of the past eight years. His works incorporate film, video, photography, and various studio-based mediums in a quasi-documentary style, and address social peripheries and cultural deviance. Shaw has an ongoing interest in the shifting uses of civic and public landscapes by mainstream and subcultural groups.

Shaw's most recent exhibitions include *Furthering Anti-Psych*, Blanket Gallery, Vancouver, BC and *Best Minds Pt.1/7 Minutes* at Galeria dels Angels, Barcelona, ES. His works have been previously seen at Presentation House Gallery in the group exhibition *Moodyville* (2008) and the solo show *DMT* (2006). Shaw is currently based in Berlin, Germany

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