

Shaun Gladwell
Storm Sequence (excerpt)

**Presented on the LED screens
at Robson and Granville Streets
Vancouver, Canada**

January 15 – 25, 2009
every 3 minutes, 24 hours per day



Other Sights is pleased to present an excerpt from *Storm Sequence* by Australian artist Shaun Gladwell. Although filmed on the other side of the world, *Storm Sequence* evokes our own rainy coast in conjunction with the global urban subculture of skateboarding.

In *Storm Sequence*, the drama and grandeur of a traditional painting of a storm at sea is integrated with the performance of a young man skateboarding on the concrete pilings, caught in that moment of heightened energy just before the storm breaks. Gladwell's skateboarder depicts a romantic figure of the beauty and self-absorption of youth, and slowing the speed of the image emphasizes the agility and grace of his movement. Gladwell's work typically explores youth subcultures as a manifestation of physical prowess in relation to commerce and architectural space. He positions his work within a tradition of artistic gestures that respond to the city.

Karen Henry, Guest Curator

Shaun Gladwell lives and works in Sydney, Australia. He will represent Australia at the 53rd Venice Biennale, opening June 7, 2009. His work has been included in numerous exhibitions including the 27th Bienal de Sao Paulo, Brazil, 2006; Les Rencontres Internationales, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France, 2006; Taipei Biennale, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taiwan, 2008; and upcoming in Code/Share: 5 continents, 10 biennales, 20 artists, Contemporary Art Centre Vilnius (CAC), Lithuania. He is a founding member of the Sydney-based artist collective Imperial Slacks and his work is represented by the Anna Schwartz Gallery, Sydney.

Other Sights for Artists' Projects seeks to create a presence for art in spaces and sites that are accessible to a broad public, such as the built environment, communications technologies, the media, and the street. Other Sights presents projects that consider the aesthetic, economic and regulatory conditions of public places and public life.

Storm Sequence is the second project of *Looking Up*, a curated series of artists' works that engage with public space and civic agency, presented by Other Sights for Artists' Projects Association.

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Image © Shaun Gladwell

Video still from *Storm Sequence* (2000) courtesy the artist & the Anna Schwartz Gallery, Sydney