

ALLEN SHEPPARD GALLERY

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For Immediate Release:
Exhibition of Photography Nov 6 – Dec 13

James Bleecker

HIGHLINE

new photographs

Opening Thursday, Nov 6th 2008
Reception for the artist Thurs Nov 6th 6 – 8 PM



Allen Sheppard Gallery is very pleased to present this second solo exhibition by James Bleecker of extraordinary urban photography. It has been many years since West Chelsea was solely a place for warehouses and dubious activities.

With the arrival of the gallery universe, condos and trendy restaurants the street mood has shifted considerably. The building of the High Line Park has underscored that shift. Photographer James Bleecker in his latest series, *High Line*, has captured the noir atmosphere of both pre and post gentrification of West Chelsea in each magnificent picture.

These powerfully large prints of High Line images are alive with rich tonality and light, providing irresistible pleasure for the viewer. One senses idealization of subject and a feeling suggesting a depiction beyond reality. This serves to elevate the viewer's awareness of this sleek, beautiful relic of New York City's industrial age that, heretofore, has been just an unnoticed feature (to some, an eyesore) of the West Chelsea urbanscape. This remarkable series of photographs washes over the viewer with a mood exhorting a visual experience that is at once contemporary and timeless.

James Bleecker is a commercial and fine arts photographer who resides in New York City. He has received commissions from David Rockefeller, The Morgan Library, The Frick Collection, and The American Museum of Natural History. In 2007 he photographed "Tuxedo Park: The Historic Houses," (Tuxedo Historical Society/Black Dome Press).

A portion of all proceeds will be donated for the benefit of the Friends of the High Line.

Gallery hours: Tues – Sat 12-6 PM or for an appointment please call 212 989-9919