

Nadav Kander
Beauty's Nothing
May 17 - June 23, 2001

Gallery hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 10 - 6

The Yancey Richardson Gallery is pleased to present "*Beauty's Nothing*", the first US exhibition of London-based photographer Nadav Kander. The show is comprised of a selection of large-scale color photographs from two related series - nighttime landscapes and motel room interiors - both taken in mid-continent America from the perspective of an outsider. Fascinated by the prevalence of manufactured sites such as freeway systems, parking lots and motel rooms, Kander creates images of places that are recognizable and familiar, and seem to be anywhere and nowhere at the same time.

In his series of night views, Kander explores the seductive bleak beauty of the American roadside experience: a looming freeway interchange harboring a neon sign of a star, a lone car illuminated by a halo of light in a desolate parking lot, or a conga line of abandoned shopping carts silhouetted against a blank stucco wall. Similarly, views of motel room interiors emphasize a sense of aloneness and alienation. In each image the view is from a bed whose edge looms into frame, a stand-in for the lonely traveler kept company by the endlessly changing characters on the ubiquitous television screen. Both the roadside views and the motel rooms represent islands of comfort and familiarity in the lonely night of middle America.

Born in Israel and raised in South Africa, Kander has resided in London since 1982. His work has been exhibited in the Saatchi Gallery, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the National Portrait Gallery and the Tate Museum. This exhibition coincides with the publication by Arena Editions of his first book, also entitled *Beauty's Nothing* which features chapters of Kander's photographs interwoven with poems and short stories by contemporary writers such as Nick Cave, Gerard Malonga, and Peter Josephs.