

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Regen Projects

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Catherine Opie: *Surfers*

January 10 – February 14, 2004

Gallery Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 10:30 - 5:30 pm

Opening reception: Saturday, January 10th, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Regen Projects is pleased to announce an exhibition of new work by Los Angeles artist, **Catherine Opie**. This exhibition will feature **Opie's** new series, *Surfers*. The *Surfers* are large color photographs of seascapes taken along the Malibu coastline. The exhibition will also include portraits of surfers standing on shore just after emerging from the water.

The *Surfers* were created after **Opie** returned from a one year residency at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, where she created the *Icehouse* series. Both the *Icehouses* and the *Surfers* are part of **Opie's** ongoing series focusing on American cities and landscapes. The *Surfers* were photographed in the mornings when the light fog in the air faintly obscures the horizon line, causing the water's edge to seamlessly fade into the sky. Like the *Icehouses*, the *Surfers* document a community defined by a landscape.

Catherine Opie has become known for her photographic series of queer portraits and American urban landscapes ranging from large color images of Beverly Hills and Bel Air homes to small jewel-like silver gelatin prints of the Los Angeles freeways. Moving from the territory of the body to the structure of the city and its surrounding landscape, **Opie** is engaged in what Joshua Decker describes as "cultural portraiture."

(**Catherine Opie**. Photographers' Gallery, London. 2000)

Catherine Opie's new work will be featured in the 2004 Biennial at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. **Opie's** work has been exhibited in museums and galleries internationally. Solo museum exhibitions have been organized by the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, The Saint Louis Art Museum, the Photographers' Gallery in London, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago, and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles. Monographs of **Catherine Opie's** work have been published by the Walker Art Center, the Photographers' Gallery, and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles.

Catherine Opie's work is in the permanent collection of the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; and the Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, among many others.

An opening reception for **Catherine Opie** will be held on Saturday, January 10th at Regen Projects from 6:00-8:00 pm. For further information please contact Shaun Caley Regen or Lisa Overduin at the gallery at (310) 276-5424.