

# Quality Pictures<sup>CA</sup>

CONTEMPORARY ART

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**Mark Hooper There:Here**

March 6 – April 26, 2008

First Thursday reception March 6<sup>th</sup>, 6-9pm

Portland OR, February 20, 2008 – Quality Pictures is pleased to present There:Here, an exhibition of large-scale color photographs by Portland-based photographer Mark Hooper. There:Here runs from March 6 – April 26, 2008. Mr. Hooper will be present at the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday opening on March 6 from 6 – 9pm.

There:Here is a marked departure from Hooper's earlier acclaimed series "Lewis and Clark, Quantifying Nature" which was included in the 2006 Oregon Biennial. The photographs in "There:Here" are a conversation around the idea of change. Through staged tableaux, the photographs use metaphorical events and tools to address enabling and predicting change on the physical, psychological or spiritual level.



The exhibition consists of ten 48 x 60 prints including "Untitled" at left. Here, a lone figure (who recurs throughout the series) stands in an abandoned warehouse and looks out at a lush green environment. Through careful staging and expert use of existing light, Hooper has infused the picture with a beautiful other-worldliness.

At right, another untitled image from the show conveys a much more ambiguous scene where

a rope seems to be ascending to the sky like a spellbound serpent. Here, Hooper creates a sense of mysticism in the work.

**Mark Hooper lives and works in Portland Oregon. Hooper was included in the 2006 Oregon Biennial and is renowned for his editorial and commercial work which has appeared in such publications as Esquire and O.**

