

# Aaron Schuman

## Once Upon a Time in The West

14 April — 9 May 2009



HOST Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of photographs by Aaron Schuman: Once Upon a Time in the West.

Once Upon a Time in the West was photographed on the eroding sets and locations of Sergio Leone's celebrated 1960's 'Spaghetti Westerns', deep in the Almerian deserts of southern Spain. For several years Schuman has pursued work concerned with the propagation of American myths abroad. He recently became fascinated by the notion that a fundamental American archetype – the Wild West, and its associations with freedom, independence, rebelliousness, brutality, morality, honour and so on – had been transposed by an Italian film director onto the landscape of Franco's Spain, and subsequently came to define this 'quintessentially American' genre in itself. Schuman has been particularly interested in exploring these remnants and what they may say about America today.

Aaron Schuman is an American photographer, editor and writer based in the United Kingdom. He has exhibited his photographic work internationally, and has contributed to numerous publications such as Aperture, Creative Review, the Guardian and the Sunday Times. Schuman is currently a Research Fellow and Senior Lecturer at the Arts Institute at Bournemouth, a lecturer at the University of Brighton, and is also the founder and editor of the online photography journal, SeeSaw Magazine

#### About HOST Gallery:

HOST is a central London commercial gallery and bookshop that celebrates and defines photography, art and journalism, running a concurrent programme of related talks, screenings and book launches alongside its strong exhibition curation.

For more information or press images, please contact Harry Hardie  
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