

Review: Neal Rantoul: Twenty-Five Years (1980–2005)



Neal Rantoul, Untitled from the series Boston Infrared

Neal Rantoul: Twenty-Five Years (1980-2005) on view at **Panopticon Gallery** from November 10 through January 04, 2011 chronicles twenty five years in the career of photographer and Northeastern University professor Neal Rantoul. From the heroic depictions of Boston's most maligned modernist buildings in his series *Boston Infrared* to the stark and eerie landscape series on the Northampton, Massachusetts fairgrounds, the work of Rantoul captivates the viewer with their varied subject matter. Contemplating the photography of Neal Rantoul and having studied the works of his mentors Harry Callahan and Aaron Siskind, some of the characteristics that made these two photographers

famous are undeniably present in Rantoul's photography. Callahan's love for the American landscape and Siskind's fascination with the abstract forms of architecture are particularly captured in Untitled #7 from the Northampton Fairgrounds series and in Untitled #4 from the Boston Infrared series. This is not to say that Rantoul's works aren't original, because they are, but to have learned and been exposed to the works of Callahan and Siskind from the masters themselves, adds so much more credibility and importance to Rantoul's works.

Panopticon Gallery is located inside the Hotel Commonwealth, in Kenmore Square. Take the Green Line B, C, D to Kenmore Square and enjoy the show.

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