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Simon Roberts: Public Performance

Zeitgeist Gallery

Reviewed by Audrey Molloy

"Simon Roberts: Public Performance" is an exhibition of large-format tableaux from the photographer's recent body of work *Sight Sacralization: (Re)framing Switzerland* (all 2016). Underscoring the public theatrics of culturally romanticized scenic vistas, Roberts frames popular tourist viewing platforms within grand Swiss landscapes - a managed point of view which simultaneously implicates the viewer and photographed spectators in a performance of looking.

field that effectively flattens the image plane. The dense congregation of humans constrained to the designated viewing arena in *Mount Pilatus, Lucerne, Switzerland* suggests an experience of natural wonder that is as mechanical and collective as the means by which it is memorialized. His is a cinematic hyper-realism which quietly points to the absurd.