



## THE NEW YORKER

---

NOVEMBER 20, 2006

SEPTEMBER 25, 2006



*Charles H. Traub's "Chicago, 1975," from a show opening this week at Gitterman.*

### **CHARLES H. TRAUB**

Traub's great black-and-white photographs from the seventies were made with a lens shade that was a size too small for his camera, so his images of people at the beach or on the street are vignettted as if in a peepshow. This vaguely retro framing device (it mimics the shape of an early TV screen) underlines the work's brutal matter-of-factness and rude intimacy. Traub tends to shove the viewer right up against some woman's sculpted hairdo or a couple's clashing polyester prints, but he also drops back to capture a shadow falling across an empty lot or a concrete patch of Chicago lakefront. Like the work Ray Metzker and John Cohen made in the same period, these tough, canny pictures look even better now. Through Dec. 2. (Gitterman, 170 E. 75th St. 212-734-0868.)