

PRESS RELEASE

**SUSAN PAULSEN**  
*New Color*

**deborah bell**

October 30-December 24, 2008  
Opening: Thursday, October 30, 6-8 pm

Photographer Susan Paulsen's second solo exhibition in New York City will be on view at Deborah Bell Photographs from October 30 through December 24. Though Paulsen is known for her small black-and-white gelatin silver photographs, first shown in the gallery in 2005, this exhibition will introduce larger images in stunning color made during the past year.

Paulsen was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1957. Her 2004 exhibition in Paris at the Maison Européenne de la Photographie, and her elegant book, Tomatoes on the Back Porch (Steidl, 2004), have received international acclaim.

In Paulsen's new color work she continues to present informal views of her daily life with family, friends, pets, and the landscape they inhabit. Paulsen has said she wishes to convey "a sense of home...by depicting the characters and events that make up a family" and "to capture on film the simple things and events which shape our lives."

The rich and vivid color of her new archival pigment prints call to mind classical painting. Details of household items, a sitter's lustrous hair, folds of drapery and calming still-life compositions, bathed in subtle yet luminous natural light, are reminiscent of Vermeer and the Renaissance masters in their qualities of light, tone and subject matter.

In his eloquent essay in Paulsen's first book, Tomatoes on the Back Porch, the filmmaker Robert Benton states, "Ms. Paulsen has a feeling for the mystery of ordinary life." He describes her images as being "about the magic of the everyday, those things we take for granted and which, once they are gone, remain in our memories and our hearts with painful clarity." And, he directs the viewer, "You will notice they chart a map of that most ephemeral zone we call intimacy."

Gallery hours for the exhibition are Tuesday-Saturday from noon to 6pm. For further information please contact Deborah Bell or Adam Bezer at (212) 691-3883 or at [deborahbell@rcn.com](mailto:deborahbell@rcn.com). High resolution scans are available to the press. All photographs copyright © Susan Paulsen.