



Portland Fall Visual Arts Picks

September 10th, 2014 RICHARD SPEER | Fall Arts

Christopher Russell

How would you photograph the end of the world? Christopher Russell takes up that question in a new series of altered photographs, *Dissonance, Coincidence & Errant Gradations of Light*. Using a cheap camera lens, he does something we're told never to do: With his camera as his eye, he looks directly into the sun. The resulting images capture sprays of spookily brilliant overexposure. As if these images weren't ominous enough already, Russell subsequently subjects them to a battery of physical batterings to further distress the prints. He scratches them with sharp objects, folds them into sections and sometimes hurls them onto the ground and stomps on them. It leads to a sooty, ragged appearance—the way a photograph might look after a nuclear explosion.

Elizabeth Leach Gallery, 417 NW 9th Ave., 224-0521, www.elizabethleach.com. Sept. 4-27.