

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Regen Projects
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RICHARD BILLINGHAM: PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE PROJECT "RAY'S A LAUGH"

March 7 - April 5, 1997

Gallery Hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 11 - 5

Opening reception: Friday, March 7th, 6 - 8 pm

Regen Projects is pleased to present the first show of British artist **Richard Billingham** in Los Angeles. Born in 1970, **Billingham** began photographing his family as a project which has been shown in galleries and museums, as well as published as a book entitled "Ray's A Laugh," (Scalo Publishers, 1996).

As **Billingham** explains his project:

This book is about my close family. My father Raymond is a chronic alcoholic. He doesn't like going outside and mostly drinks homebrew. My mother Elizabeth hardly drinks but she does smoke a lot. She likes pets and things that are decorative. They married in 1970 and I was born soon after. My younger brother Jason was taken into care when he was 11 but is now back with Ray and Liz again. Recently he became a father. Ray says Jason is unruly. Jason says Ray's a laugh but doesn't want to be like him.

And Robert Frank comments on the project:

*Flash into the face of Mom and Dad. A British family-album so cool that I can see and hear what goes on between the frames. No room for judgement or morality . . . Reality and no pretence. **Richard Billingham** is the son and he knows - his family.*

On view at Regen Projects will be **Billingham's** photographs from the book, and a selection of never before seen photographs from the same project.

Richard Billingham's work has been presented in galleries and museums throughout the United States and Europe.

An opening reception for **Richard Billingham** will take place on Friday, March 7th, from 6 - 8 pm at the gallery. For further information please contact Stuart Regen or Shaun Caley at (310) 276-5424.

****Upcoming exhibition at Regen Projects: New Sculpture by Liz Lerner, April 12 - May 10, 1997**