

DANNY GIROUARD-TALLION

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Untitled, 2011. 'Store, retain, and *recall*' series. Danny Girouard-Tallion



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Danny Girouard-Tallion was born in Laval, and raised in Terrebonne, Quebec. Girouard-Tallion is in his final term of the photography program at Concordia University, and has a strong background in film. This filmic education is evident in his work, which bears a distinctively cinematic feeling. Girouard-Tallion's oeuvre explores both the photographic potential of spontaneity, and the friction between reality and memory.

In Girouard-Tallion's series 'Store, retain, and *recall*' he appropriates a family photograph from a visit to a summer cottage in Maine. Years later, he returned to the very spot of his childhood euphoria, to find nothing but an invariable emptiness. Revisiting his youth through a cinematic style of photography, Girouard-Tallion became a lonely spectator. In re-inscribing and re-photographing this significant site of his past, he reveals the mutability of memory, and with it, an estrangement from nostalgia. Geoffrey Batchen in his 2004 work *Forget Me Not: Photography and Remembrance*, builds on the critical thought of Siegfried Kracauer when he argues that, "Photography captures too much information to function as memory. It is too coherent and too linear in its articulation of time and space. Memory, in contrast, is selective, fuzzy in outline, intensively subjective, often incoherent, and changes over time"¹ Ultimately, in 'Store, retain, and *recall*' Girouard-Tallion explores the ways in which photography can conduct and create memory.

¹ Geoffrey Batchen, *Forget Me Not: Photography and Remembrance* (New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 2004), 16.