



STREET WALKER © Joe Duggan. Courtesy of Hirschl Contemporary Art, London.

joe duggan

never ever

Have you ever had that disorienting experience of finding something not to be what you thought it was? Like reaching out to touch a reflection. Joe Duggan makes us question what is real and what is not. His photographs, which at first glance appear to be innocuous scenes of everyday life, quickly reveal themselves to be utterly strange.



FAMILY MAN No1 © Joe Duggan. Courtesy of Hirschl Contemporary Art, London.

Taking human relationships as a starting point, Duggan changes our perspective of the idealised and apparently 'normal' views of life fed to us on a daily basis by television, film and advertising. The initial allure of some kind of superficial beauty in the images is replaced by a nagging feeling that something is just not right. Upon closer inspection, the photographs, created by using mannequins, stuffed animals, theatrical backdrops, and Duggan himself, reveal darker, more complex fantasies and grim fairy-tales. Enter the odd and lonely world of Joe Duggan, it's not pretty but it does have a sense of humour.

Hirschl Contemporary Art
Until 5 January 2004



FAMILY MAN No4 © Joe Duggan. Courtesy of Hirschl Contemporary Art, London.