

Poetry in the Project Gallery
Gregory Halpern: 19 winters / 7 springs

After viewing the photographs in the *Gregory Halpern: 19 winters / 7 springs* exhibition, find one photograph that you connect or associate with Robert Creeley's poem, *Place to Be*.

Place to Be

Robert Creeley

Days the weather sits
in the endless sky,
the clouds drifting by.

The winter's snow,
summer's heat,
same street.

Nothing changes
but the faces, the people,
all the things they do

'spite of heaven and hell
or city hall—
Nothing's wiser than a moment.

No one's chance
is simply changed by wishing,
right or wrong.

What you do is how you get along.
What you did is all it ever means.

"Place to Be" by Robert Creeley, from *If I were writing this*. © New Directions, 2003.

Stand in front of the image you have chosen and silently read *Place to Be* again.

OVER

Think about ...

What correlations do you make between the photograph and the poem?

Think about which lines in the poem stand out for you.

Which words in those lines emerge as important?

Do you find those words in the photograph?

If so, how do the words and photograph connect?

What words does the photograph provoke that are not in the poem?

After leaving the exhibition, *Gregory Halpern: 19 winters / 7 springs*, take your own photograph informed by both the images you have viewed and Robert Creeley's poem, *Place to Be*.