

# Current Issues

in North American Studies and Cultural Studies

**NORTH  
AMERICAN  
STUDIES  
PROGRAM**

**Ethan Rafal**

Photographer, San Francisco

universität  **bonn**

## **SHOCK AND AWE** A Presentation | Performance

Tuesday, June 7, 2016 | 6:00–8:00 pm  
Festsaal, Regina-Pacis-Weg 3



*Shock and Awe*, a meticulously crafted image, text, and found object journal, examines the relationship between protracted war and homeland decay. Completed over countless years traveling the United States and blurring the line between personal and authoritative histories, the project pulls from the traditions of documentary photography and writing set on the American road.

Ethan Rafal is a San Francisco-based artist. His work deals with the ways in which representations of (individual and collective) violence inform personal and national mythologies. Photography has been the essential space for his practice, but he also works through performance, installation, video, new-media, and social-practice methodologies.

Due to the interdisciplinary nature of *Shock and Awe*, the book presentation is both a reading and a show-and-tell, followed by an open discussion about the issues explored in the project.