

“Tip of the Week”

Michael Weinstein, New City, September 16, 2004

“In his large photographic posters composed of multiple shots arranged in narrative sequences, Jonathan Gitelson makes shaggy-dog comments on the quirky rituals and comically absurd practices of urban life. With tongue firmly in cheek, Gitelson explored the meaning of ‘Shoes on the Telephone Wires’ by shooting his subject- fellow photographer Brian Ulrich- vigorously attempting to get a pair of sneakers up there and putting small photos of the performance on either side of a large head shot of Ulrich looking like a crazed madman. To complete the composition, Gitelson placed, on the top and bottom, rows of five small man-in -the-street head shots with captions under them explaining the practice in plausibly nonsensical ways: ‘It’s how those gangbangers mark their turf.’ ‘Yeah man, you throw them up there after the first time you get laid’”