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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## UMBRAGE EDITIONS UNEARTH'S *SUBTERRANEA*

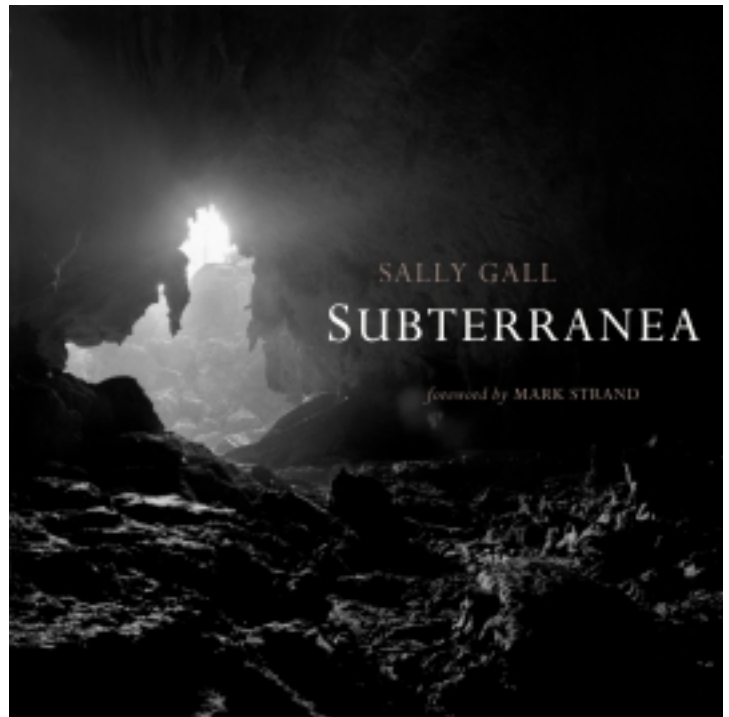
FINDING BEAUTY IN DARKNESS AND SHEDDING LIGHT ON THE UNDERWORLD

<b>BOOK SPECS</b>	<b>11.5 x 11.5"</b>	<b>\$45.00USD</b>
Hardcover with jacket	80 pages	February 2003
HC ISBN: 1-884167-27-6	35 duotone illustrations	

**New York, New York** - Umbrage Editions is proud to announce the publication of *Subterranea*, a series of rich duo-tone images taken by noted photographer Sally Gall and foreword written by former Poet Laureate Mark Strand. In *Subterranea* Gall unearths a remarkable photographic collection of the underworld taken during a four-year period in Mexico, Belize, Southeast Asia, the U.S., and Europe. Gall explores a spiritual realm enhanced by the history of early human passage, myth and spiritual transcendence. Her captivating work is accompanied by a powerful and evocative essay contributed by distinguished poet, essayist, novelist Mark Strand addressing the emotion of grandeur elicited, the power of silence, the arresting beauty of darkness, and the iconic resonance of Gall's photographs and the underworld they depict.

In *Subterranea*, the objective universe is gone, and only the subjective remains. Eternal time is frozen in a fantastic and otherworldly architecture: crumbling walls, stalactites and stalagmites coated with icy limestone and calcite formations gloaming in the darkness, bleached white as chalk. With each image, Sally Gall draws us deeper into a world forgotten. Somber and mortuary thought seems natural and right in these great spaces—thoughts of Aeneas and Charon the boatman at the mouth of Hades and the shades waiting to be rowed across to the eternal beyond—a recognition that we all come at last to darkness and silence.

Justin Springs, of Art Forum, states of the book: "Lushly material, almost sexual, her pictures seduce the spectator just as devotional paintings do; you actually travel to the world of the photograph and sink into the rich textures and thrilling sensual atmosphere. Like water and ocean they are a place for secular prayer."



SALLY GALL is a celebrated photographer who has always sought the inexplicable in nature, finding beauty in things terrestrial—a beauty defined and enhanced by its opposite: the unsettling, the precipitous, the fearful. Her work is widely exhibited and is in the collections of various museums, among them the Simon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; the Cleveland Museum of Art; the New Orleans Museum of Art; The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; and the San Francisco Museum of Art. She is the recipient of several awards and fellowships including a National Endowment for the Arts Visual Artist's Fellowship, two Macdowell Colony Fellowships, and a Rockefeller Foundation Residency in Bellagio, Italy. Her previous book, *The Water's Edge*, was published in 1995 by Umbrage/Chronicle Books. Gall grew up in Houston, Texas, and currently lives in New York City.

MARK STRAND is a poet, a professor on the Committee on Social Thought at the University of Chicago and has published numerous collections of poems, including *Weather or Words* (2000), *Blizzard of One* (1997), *Dark Harbor* (1993), *The Continuous Life* (1990), *Selected Poems* (1980), *The Late Hour* (1978), *The Story of our Lives* (1973), *The Sargentville Notebook* (1973), *Darker* (1970), *Reasons For Moving* (1968), and *Sleeping With One Eye Open* (1964). He has also published a book of prose, entitled *The Monument* (1978). His books on artists include *William Bailey* (1987) and *Hopper* (1994). He has been the recipient of fellowships from the Ingram Merrill, Rockefeller, and Guggenheim Foundations and from the National Endowment for the Arts. He has been awarded the Fellowship of the Academy of American Poets (1979), a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Award (1987), the Bollingen Prize (1993), and has served as Poet Laureate of the United States (1990). Mark Strand was born in Summerside, Prince Edward Island, Canada.

**Confirmed traveling exhibition and opening events at the following galleries:**

JULIE SAUL GALLERY	New York	January 16 - February 22 2003
ROBERT KOCH GALLERY	San Francisco	March 6 - April 27 2003
CATHERINE EDELMAN GALLERY	Chicago	June 6 - July 12 2003
ROBERT KLEIN GALLERY	Boston	September 2003
MARCIA RALLS GALLERY	Washington	November / December 2003
ETHERTON GALLERY	Tucson	January / February 2004

UMBRAGE EDITIONS is a New York-based award-winning publisher and packager of provocative visual books and multimedia projects including high-quality visual books, traveling exhibitions, and multimedia projects. Umbrage Editions creates content-rich products, bringing them from their initial conception to development and final production. Umbrage projects vary in subject matter from classic photojournalism to cutting-edge art, from pop culture to global human rights, from the closets of drag queens to the runways of fashion. For more information, contact [www.umbragebooks.com](http://www.umbragebooks.com).

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Continental Drift (Krabi Province, Thailand, 2001)



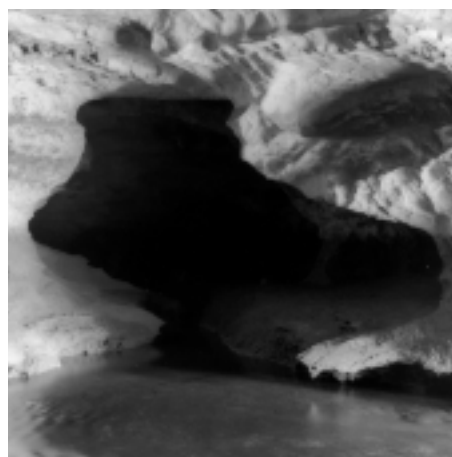
Oasis (Rio Frio Cave, Cayo District, Belize, 1999)



Quadrant (Phang Nga Bay, Thailand, 1999)



Departure (Barton Creek, Cayo District, Brazil, 1999)



Shift (Krabi Province, Thailand, 1999)



Observatory (Xilitla, Veracruz, Mexico, 2001)