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FINNISH  
INSTITUTE



University  
of Southampton

Toby Glanville  
FINLAND STATIONS

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#### FINLAND STATIONS

The fourteen images here were made by Toby Glanville in the last three months of 2006, in Oulu, capital of northern Finland, just below the Arctic Circle on the Gulf of Bothnia. It is an old city with a port, now industrialised and modern. The Arts Council International Research Fellowship which took him there is specifically designed to give time for research and reflection, and experience of an unfamiliar culture.

The title of the show alludes to the Passion of Christ (Stations of the Cross) and to Edmund Wilson's seminal book on exile, Marxism and the Russian Revolution: *To the Finland Station*.

Glanville found himself working in an environment which was to be gradually starved of light. As the sun became tantalizingly visible only by its reflection, he looked for ways in which to record its paradoxical flight.

Here it appears in a pool of thawing snow; in the windows of an apartment building; on the handle of a sauna door. Its fleeting return was always a cause for joy and celebration: its absence a source of grief.

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