

# COUNTRY LIVING

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SAMEK ART MUSEUM • LEWISBURG, PA. USA



## STEPHEN ALTHOUSE

*Axe, Wood, and Shroud*, 2003

Digital pigment print

49" x 67", unframed

Courtesy of the artist

Althouse, who lives in Rebersburg, PA in Amish country, produced a series of visual meditations on traditional hand tools. In *Axe, Wood, Shroud*, the function of the tool is aestheticized. The axe and wood bracket the implied act of chopping wood. The soft vernal light raking over thick creased fabric depict the act as a sacrament symbolized by relics as in a Medieval altar painting while the minimal composition, flat frontal perspective and colorless negative space bring the act into the space of Modern art.

