Rafael Goldchain

Ontario Farms

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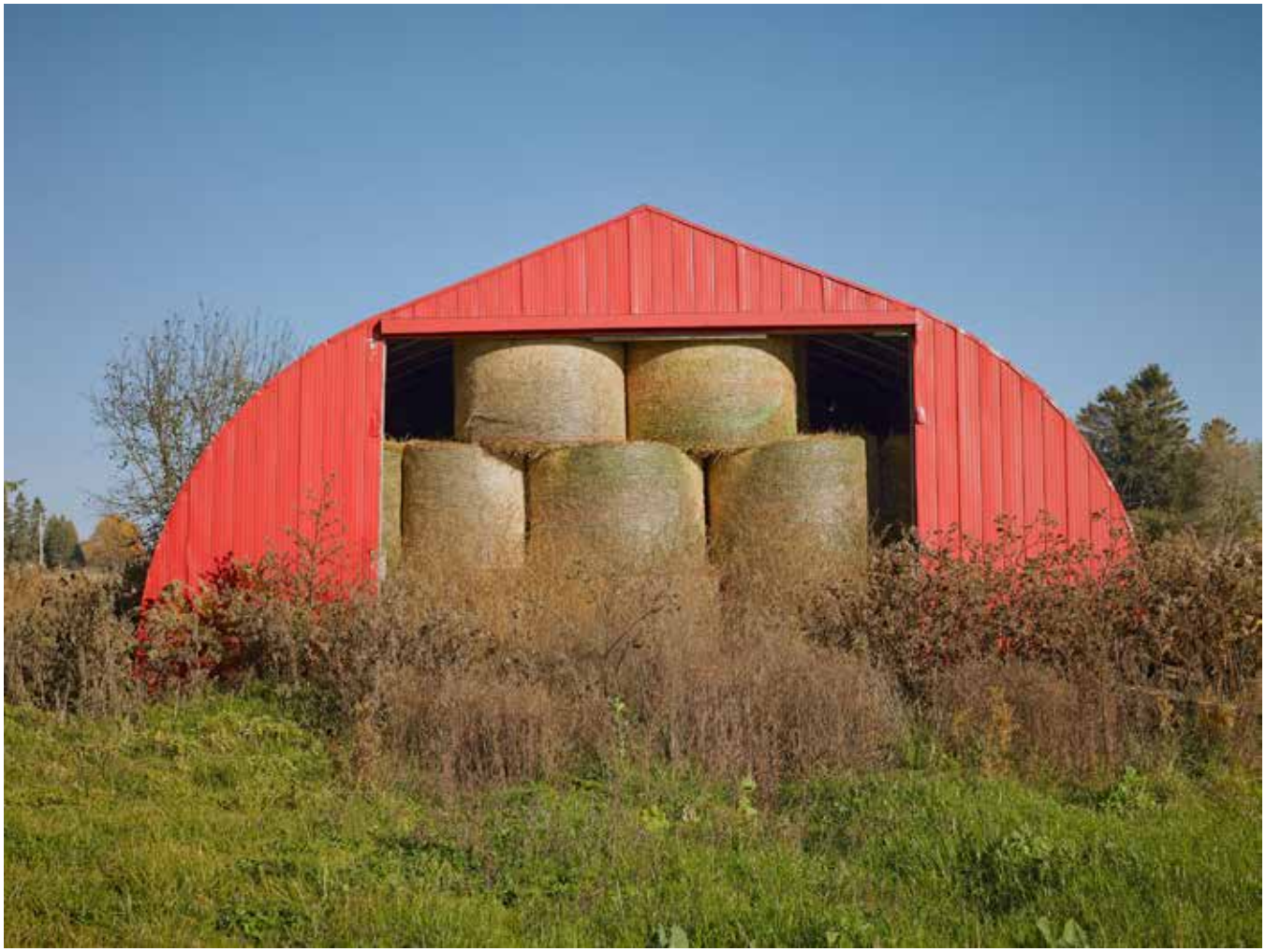
My interest in farm buildings began when I moved to Port Hope, Ontario 3 years ago. Within minutes of the town, the landscape opens onto farmland, where barns appear in a wide variety of forms. Their shapes, materials, and states of repair reflect the history of settlement, agricultural practice, and changing rural life.

From timber-frame structures to more recent metal buildings, these barns embody both function and adaptation. As photographic subjects, they offer an opportunity to explore vernacular architecture within the agricultural landscape, while attending to shape, texture, colour, and the changing quality of light.

This series is a study of the enduring presence of barns in South Eastern Ontario: familiar structures that, through time and weather, continue to reveal the character of the land around them.

~ Rafael Goldchain
September 2026

Industrial Building, Toronto, 2023
archival pigment print on Hahnemuhle Baryta paper, 38 in x 22 in
Edition 1/5



Farm Shed (Red Summer), Port Hope, Ontario, 2023
archival pigment print on Hahnemuhle Baryta paper, 38 in x 29 in
Edition 1/5

Farm Shed (Red Winter), Port Hope, Ontario, 2024
archival pigment print on Hahnemuhle Baryta paper, 38 in x 29 in
Edition 1/5

Farm Shed (Small Gray Metal) Port Hope, Ontario, 2026
archival pigment print on Hahnemuhle Baryta paper, 38 in x 29 in
Edition 1/5

Farm Shed (Green Metal) Port Hope, Ontario, 2025
archival pigment print on Hahnemuhle Baryta paper, 38 in x 24 in
Edition 1/5

Farm Shed (Gray Metal, Open Door) Port Hope, Ontario, 2026
archival pigment print on Hahnemuhle Baryta paper, 38 in x 23 in
Edition 1/5

Red Barn, Port Hope, Ontario, 2026
archival pigment print on Hahnemuhle Baryta paper, 38 in x 38 in
Edition 1/5

Silos (Summer), Port Hope, Ontario, 2025
archival pigment print on Hahnemuhle Baryta paper, 38 in x 38 in
Edition 1/5

Silos (Winter), Port Hope, Ontario, 2025
archival pigment print on Hahnemuhle Baryta paper, 38 in x 38 in
Edition 1/5

Silo, Starkville, Ontario, 2025
archival pigment print on Hahnemuhle Baryta paper, 38 in x 38 in
Edition 1/5

White Barn, Clarington, Ontario,
archival pigment print on Hahnemuhle Baryta paper, 38 in x 38 in
Edition 1/5

Rafael Goldchain

Rafael Goldchain is a Chilean-Canadian Jewish artist born in Santiago de Chile. He has lived in Jerusalem and México City, and moved to Canada in the late 1970s. That history runs through his work, which keeps returning to memory, inheritance, and what time leaves standing. He holds a Bachelor of Applied Arts in Film and Photography Studies from Toronto Metropolitan University, formerly Ryerson University (1980), a Master of Fine Arts from York University (2000), and a Master of Arts in Art History from the University of Toronto (2017).

Two projects anchor his career. *Nostalgia for an Unknown Land* (Lumiere Press, 1989) collected colour photographs made across Latin America during years of political upheaval, a vision from exile drawn from history, myth and popular culture. In *I Am My Family* (Princeton Architectural Press, 2008) he photographed himself in the guise of his own ancestors, family lost in the Holocaust or dispersed across Latin America, building from costume and gesture a family album that had never existed. He is the subject of the documentary film *Beautifully Broken: The Life and Times of Rafael Goldchain* (2013), and his photographs appear in *The Extended Moment* (National Gallery of Canada, 2018) and *Photography in Canada 1960–2000* (2017).

Goldchain's photographs have been exhibited across Canada, the United States, Chile, Cuba, Germany, France, Italy, the Czech Republic and México, and in 2025 at the Art Gallery of Ontario in *Recuerdo: Latin American Photography*. His work is held in collections including the Bibliothèque nationale de France, the National Gallery of Canada, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Art Gallery of Ontario, and the Museum of Photographic Arts in San Diego. He taught in the Honours Bachelor of Photography at Sheridan College from 1994 and is now retired from the faculty. He lives in Port Hope, Ontario.