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Denise Brennan Watson, Media Publicist
Art Academy of Cincinnati
1212 Jackson Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202
513.562.6262 / dwatson@artacademy.edu

Judith Turner-Yamamoto pr@fotofocuscincinnati.org 703.851.0380

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THE ART ACADEMY OF CINCINNATI ANNOUNCES FOTOFOCUS OCTOBER 2012 PLANS

Cincinnati, OH- In collaboration with **FOTOFOCUS**, the October 2012 month-long, area-wide celebration of photography and lens-based art, The Art Academy of Cincinnati announces its programming plans.

Midwest SPE Conference: October 11 - 13, 2012 the Art Academy of Cincinnati hosts **Continuum**, the 2012 meeting of the Midwest Society of Educators, an event bringing over 500 photography students and educators to Greater Cincinnati.

Conference Dates:. The conference offers sessions of artist talks, panels, lectures and workshops. To celebrate the 50th year of SPE, we honor the past, present and future of image-making. Conference session topics and exhibitions cover many decades and genres of photography. Calls for submissions and registration information will be available in early 2012 at http://www.midwestspe.org/conferences.html

Art Academy FOTOFOCUS Exhibitions: In conjunction with FOTOFOCUS and Continuum, the Art Academy's galleries present three public exhibitions:

Pearlman Gallery:

The Architect's Brother: Photogravures by Robert and Shana ParkeHarrison October 4 - 31, 2012

Shana and Robert ParkeHarrison create elegant photogravures using theatrical constructions of impossible realities. Images from the series "The Architect's Brother" are performances in mythological spaces that evoke flight, presence, futility and freedom. The dichotomy addresses our humanity and its power struggle with the natural world while conjuring child-like qualities of wonder in the viewer.

Convergys Gallery Sixth Lightborne Artist-in-Residence: Laurel Nakadate October 4 - 31, 2012

Laurel Nakadate, a photographer, video artist and film-maker, utilizes popular culture to examine the discomfort and allure in the relationship between women and the male gaze. Her work challenges issues of power, voyeurism, and individual agency. Nakadate, who received her MFA from Yale, had a solo exhibition from January – August 2011 titled "Only the Lonely" at MoMA's PS1 Gallery in New York City. Visit www.nakadate.net.

Convergys Gallery Student Juried Photographic Exhibition October 4 - 31, 2012

Regional students of lens-based arts will exhibit in this juried exhibition.

Visit www.artacademy.edu/about/news-events-pubs/midwest-society-photo-conference.php.

For more information about the Art Academy of Cincinnati **FOTOFOCUS** Exhibitions and "Continuum," the SPE conference, contact Associate Professor of Photography Emily Hanako Momohara at emomohara@artacademy.edu.

FotoFocus, a nonprofit arts organization, champions the ubiquity of photography and its important role in contemporary culture. **FotoFocus** recaptures the spirit of Cincinnati's legacy as an epicenter of art production and creative exchange, and seeks to revitalize that spirit for the 21st century. Acting as a catalyst for institutional collaboration and community engagement, **FotoFocus** organizes a month-long biennial celebration spotlighting independently programmed exhibitions of historical and contemporary photography and lens-based art.

Launched in 2007 the Lightborne Visiting Artist Program is unique to the Photography Major at the Art Academy of Cincinnati. Each year the Art Academy and the Cincinnati Art Museum invite two international artists to work with students and give a public lecture in the Lightborne Lecture Series(launched 1996). In the fall, an emerging photographer is invited for a two-week Artist-in-Residence program. Artists include Elinor Carucci (www.elinorcarucci.com), Todd Hido (www.elinorcarucci.com), Todd Hido (www.www.elinorcarucci.com), Ard Hank Willis Thomas (www.hankwillisthomas.com). Students work with the artist during a three-day workshop, benefit from one-on-one critiques and install an exhibition of the photographer's art in the Art Academy Gallery. In the spring, an international artist is invited for a three-day visit, with group and one-on-one critiques with students, and a public lecture. Artists include Gregory Crewdson, Thomas Demand (www.dougaitkenworkshop.com).