

For Immediate Release

FotoFocus Announces Opening Week Program for the FotoFocus Biennial 2016: *Photography, the Undocument* October 1–31, 2016

Including presentations by Zanele Muholi, Roxana Marcoci, Roe Ethridge, William E. Jones, and Julian Cox in conversation with Sheila Pree Bright

FotoFocus Biennial Program: October 6–9, 2016 Cincinnati, Ohio #FotoFocus2016 #undocument



Zanele Muholi, *Bester II, Paris*, 2014. Courtesy of the artist and Yancey Richardson Gallery

Cincinnati, OH – August 23, 2016 – FotoFocus is pleased to announce the opening week programming for the third edition of its month-long Biennial from October 1 – October 31, 2016, in Cincinnati, Ohio. The opening week programming will run October 6 – 9 and will feature keynote lectures, talks and panel discussions with artists, curators, and collaborators, along with screenings and performances all focused around the Biennial's theme: *Photography, the Undocument*.

Through four days of talks and events, the opening program will seek to break apart assumptions about photography's documentary character, underpinned by an exploration of social, political and racial issues in which photography is employed as a tool of both evidence and artistic expression. Biennial guests will address these topics in tandem with the featured exhibitions curated by FotoFocus Artistic Director and Curator **Kevin Moore**, including the first US solo museum show of Roe Ethridge's work at the Contemporary Arts Center and solo presentations by Zanele Muholi, Jackie Nickerson, and Robin Rhode at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. The group shows *After Industry* and *New Slideshow* feature a roster of defining figures of contemporary photography including Lewis Baltz, John Divola, Mark Ruwedel, Nan Goldin and William E. Jones among others. A Passport ticket is required to attend all events and can be purchased on the FotoFocus website www.fotofocusbiennial.org or at the door.

"Photography, the Undocument explores photography as an artistic mode of representation and, coincidentally, a tool of rhetoric and persuasion," said **Kevin Moore**. "By its very nature, photography raises political as well as philosophical questions: what do we assume to be real, what is true and how are different realities represented in photographs used for various purposes—for marketing, political influence and social activism? With more photos taken in 2015 than in the entire history of film photography, the agency and power of the photographer as a producer and distributor of unique and authentic visual material has once again shifted. The 2016 Biennial Program explores this phenomenon, examining how photography's different realities are employed as tools for social, political and racial awareness."

The programming is led by three headline events, along with panels that delve into exhibited and influential photography relating to the theme. The program will be opened by keynote lecturer **Roxana Marcoci**, Senior Curator of Photography at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, who will discuss "The Re-Presentation of Louise Lawler's Work" on Thursday, October 6. **Roe Ethridge**'s first solo museum exhibition *Nearest Neighbor* anchors the Biennial programming and is the subject of a panel on Friday, October 7, moderated by **Kevin Moore**, featuring the artist and a roster of collaborators—gallerists, designers, and models who have played an integral role in Ethridge's career to date. Presenter and exhibiting artist **Zanele Muholi** will be accompanied by a group of performers for an interdisciplinary performance and discussion on Saturday, October 8, that expands upon her solo exhibition, *Personae*, on view at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center.

Saturday's daytime programming establishes the curated exhibitions within a social and historical context. *New Slideshow* artist **William E. Jones** will explore buried history and the editorial process that public archives undergo in his talk "Rejected Images of the Farm Security Administration." **Julian Cox,** Chief Curator and Founding Curator of Photography, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, will be in conversation with artist **Sheila Pree Bright**, discussing "American Civil Rights Then and Now" as a historical preface to Zanele Muholi's keynote presentation.

The **FotoFocus ArtHub: Satellite Project Space**, located outside of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center on the banks of the Ohio River, is an interactive space for the community of Cincinnati to immerse themselves in the Biennial themes. It will house Wave Pool's extension of their exhibition *The Peeled Eye*. Investigating the mechanisms and outcomes of contemporary surveillance, the FotoFocus ArtHub presents an installation, video work and performance that distort and reimagine materials drawn from public archives, including surveillance footage, self-generating animation, and commercial video vignettes.

"FotoFocus is proud to nurture and support Cincinnati's art scene across institutions, galleries, and public arenas," said **FotoFocus Executive Director Mary Ellen Goeke**. "Through a timely and pertinent discussion around veracity in the photographic medium, particularly in this election year, the 2016 Biennial brings together curators, artists, art professionals and supporters from across the country and around the world to further the global dialogue about the agency and impact of contemporary photography."

# Opening Week Program October 6 - 9, 2016

Program Subject to Change

THURSDAY Aronoff Center for the Arts

650 Walnut Street, Cincinnati, OH

6:30pm Keynote Lecture: The Re-Presentation of Louise Lawler's Work

Roxana Marcoci, Senior Curator, Department of Photography, The Museum of Modern Art,

New York

FRIDAY Contemporary Arts Center

44 E 6th St, Cincinnati, OH

7pm Panel: Roe Ethridge: Nearest Neighbor

Moderated by **Kevin Moore**, Artistic Director and Curator, FotoFocus, with panelists: **Roe Ethridge**, Artist; **Brendan Dugan**, Gallerist and Publisher; **Andy Harman**, Production Designer, Set Designer, and Artist; **Liz Mulholland**, Partner, Andrew Kreps Gallery; and **Louise Parker**,

Model and Photographer

8pm Exhibition Openings for FotoFocus Curated Exhibitions Roe Ethridge: Nearest Neighbor and

New Slideshow

**SATURDAY** 

Day 21c Museum Hotel

609 Walnut St, Cincinnati, OH

9am Welcome: Shifting Coordinates

Alice Gray Stites, Chief Curator and Director of Art Programming, 21c Museum, Louisville, and

 $\hbox{Co-Curator of $S$ hifting Coordinates, in conversation with $\textbf{Sebastiaan Bremer}$, Artist$ 

9:30am Panel: After Industry

Moderated by **Chris Balaschak**, Associate Professor of Art History, Flagler College, with panelists: **John Divola**, Artist and Professor of Art, University of California, Riverside; **Gregory Gooding**, Collector; and **Mark Ruwedel**, Artist and Professor, California State University, Long

Beach

10:30am Lecture: Rejected Images of the Farm Security Administration

William E. Jones, Artist, New Slideshow

11am Panel: The Sun Placed in the Abyss, on view at Columbus Museum of Art

> Moderated by Drew Sawyer, William and Sarah Ross Soter Associate Curator of Photography, Columbus Museum of Art, with panelists: John Divola, Artist and Professor of Art, University of

California, Riverside; David Horvitz, Artist; and Mary Lucier, Video Artist

Noon Short Break

12:30pm Conversation: Jackie Nickerson: August

Moderated by Paul Moakley, Deputy Director of Photography and Visual Enterprise, TIME, with

Jackie Nickerson, Artist, and Susan Meiselas, Photographer

Conversation: American Civil Rights Then and Now 1:30pm

Julian Cox, Chief Curator, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, in conversation with Sheila

Pree Bright, Artist

**SATURDAY** 

Afternoon National Underground Railroad Freedom Center

50 E Freedom Way, Cincinnati, OH

3:30 pm Exhibition Reception for FotoFocus Curated Exhibitions Zanele Muholi: Personae, Jackie

Nickerson: August, and Robin Rhode: Three Films

5:30pm Evening Program with Zanele Muholi, Artist

**SUNDAY Biennial Participating Venue Community Day** 

11am Performance at the FotoFocus ArtHub: Satellite Project Space for The Peeled Eye, curated by

Calcagno Cullen, Wave Pool Gallery

Guided and Self-Guided Tours of FotoFocus Biennial Participating Venues

### FOTOFOCUS BIENNIAL PARTICIPATING VENUES

In addition to the eight exhibitions curated by FotoFocus Artistic Director and Curator Kevin Moore, the Biennial will include over 60 exhibitions around the city and surrounding region, ranging from major museums and institutions to independent galleries and publishing organizations, which together represent a comprehensive spectrum of engagement with lens-based art. These Participating Venues will be open during the month of October with several exhibitions open until early 2017. A complete list of exhibitions and dates available at: http://www.fotofocusbiennial.org/venues

## PARTICIPATING VENUES

1305 Gallery Clifton Cultural Arts Center Columbus Museum of Art 21c Museum Hotel Alice F. & Harris K. Weston Art Gallery Contemporary Arts Center

Antioch College: Herndon Gallery DAAP Galleries: Meyers Gallery and Reed Gallery Art Academy of Cincinnati: Pearlman Gallery and Dayton Visual Arts Center

Convergvs Gallery Downtown Cincinnati, Inc.

Art Beyond Boundaries Gallery Forealism Tribe At Frameshop

Artworks® At The Public Library of Cincinnati and **HUDSONJONES** 

Hamilton County: Main Branch I.Imagine At Roebling Point Books And Coffee

Behringer-Crawford Museum **BLDG** 

Brazee Street Studios: C-Link Gallery

Carl Solway Gallery Cincinnati Art Museum

Cincinnati Museum Center With Word Play And

Chase Public At Hoffner Lodge Gallery

Clay Street Press

Iris Bookcafé & Gallery

Kennedy Heights Arts Center

Lloyd Library And Museum With Cincinnati Books

**Arts Society** 

Manifest Creative Research Gallery And Drawing

Center

Mercantile Library

Miami University Art Museum

Miller Gallery

National Underground Railroad Freedom Center Northern Kentucky University: Visual Arts Galleries

Pop Revolution Gallery

Prairie

Robin Imaging Services Sinclair Community College

Skirball Museum Cincinnati In Partnership With The Center For Holocaust And Humanity Education Stivers School for the Arts: Fifth Street Gallery

Taft Museum of Art The Betts House The Carnegie

The Carnegie: Contemporary Arts Center Black Box

Performance Series
The Dayton Art Institute

Thomas More College: Eva G. Farris Gallery

Wash Park Art Wave Pool

Wave Pool at FotoFocus ArtHub

Wright State University: Gallery 207 At The Robert

And Elaine Stein Galleries

Xavier University: Art Gallery Cohen Center

YWCA Women's Art Gallery

## FOTOFOCUS EXHIBITIONS CURATED BY KEVIN MOORE

Roe Ethridge: Nearest Neighbor October 7, 2016 - March 12, 2017 Contemporary Arts Center

Jackie Nickerson: August

October 1, 2016 – January 23, 2017 National Underground Railroad Freedom Center

Zanele Muholi: Personae

October 1, 2016 – January 23, 2017 National Underground Railroad Freedom Center

Marlo Pascual: Three Works

September 23, 2016 – November 27, 2016 Alice F. and Harris K. Weston Art Gallery **New Slideshow** 

October 6 - 9, 2016 Contemporary Arts Center

Robin Rhode: Three Films

October 1, 2016 – January 23, 2017 National Underground Railroad Freedom Center

After Industry

September 23, 2016 – November 27, 2016 Alice F. and Harris K. Weston Art Gallery

**Shifting Coordinates** 

Co-curated by Kevin Moore and Alice Gray Stites, Museum Director and Chief Curator September 23, 2016 – January 2, 2017 21c Museum Hotel

### **About the Biennial**

The 2016 FotoFocus Biennial will run through the month of October throughout the greater Cincinnati region at participating museums, galleries, universities, and community organizations. It will include four days of concentrated programming and events, including artist and curator talks, screenings, performances and tours taking place October 6–9, 2016.

## **About FotoFocus**

FotoFocus is a non-profit arts organization whose mission is to present the finest in contemporary photography and lens-based art that is artistically, intellectually, and academically rigorous, and to support programs that are accessible, educational, and enriching to a diverse public. FotoFocus celebrates and champions photography as the medium of our time and aims to encourage dialogue about the world through the art of photography.

Further information about FotoFocus can be found at <a href="http://www.fotofocuscincinnati.org">http://www.fotofocuscincinnati.org</a>, and information about the upcoming 2016 FotoFocus Biennial is available at <a href="http://www.fotofocusbiennial.org">http://www.fotofocusbiennial.org</a>.

Follow FotoFocus on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram via the hashtags #FotoFocus, #FotoFocus2016, and #undocument.

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For further information, members of the press may contact:

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