

FOTOFOCUS

For Immediate Release

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INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED PHOTOGRAPHER LAUREL NAKADATE IS FALL 2012 FOTOFOCUS LECTURER AND VISITING ARTIST

Laurel Nakadate Presents her Work in a Free Public Lecture Wednesday, Wednesday, October 24, 7:00, Fath Auditorium, Cincinnati Art Museum. Public Reception Immediately Following the Lecture.

Polaroids from *Stay the Same Never Change* on view through October 31, Convergys Gallery, Art Academy of Cincinnati. Exhibition Reception, Thursday, October 25, 5:00 PM -7:00 PM

Cincinnati, OH—Wednesday, October 24, at 7:00 PM, FOTOFOCUS presents acclaimed photographer Laurel Nakadate, the fall 2012 FOTOFOCUS Lecturer and Visiting Artist, speaking about her work in a free lecture at Fath Auditorium, Cincinnati Art Museum. Reservations are not required, but early arrival is recommended. The parking fee is \$4. Free parking is available for Cincinnati Art Museum members. A public reception follows the lecture in the Cincinnati Art Museum's Great Hall. The Art Academy of Cincinnati hosts the first exhibition of Polaroids from *Nakadate's Stay the Same Never Change* project through October 31. The exhibition reception is Thursday, October 25, 5:00 PM -7:00 PM.

“Laurel Nakadate's Cincinnati visit, in conjunction with our first FOTOFOCUS biennial, affirms the collaborative relationships we have built between the academic community,

cultural institutions, and our public,” says FOTOFOCUS Director, Mary Ellen Goeke. “Inaugurated in 1996, as the Lightborne lecture series we now welcome Laurel Nakadate as the 32nd artist to participate in this important program celebrating its 16th year. Our synergistic programming reinforces FOTOFOCUS and photography’s presence in the public eye.” James Crump, Cincinnati Art Museum Chief Curator and FOTOFOCUS Co-Chair adds, “Nakadate has proven herself as one of the dominant emerging artists utilizing photography in new and unexpected ways. We welcome Laurel to the list of notable artists sharing their work with area students, collectors, and enthusiasts.”

Photographer, video artist and film-maker, Nakadate utilizes popular culture to examine the discomfort and allure in the relationship between women and the male gaze. Her work employs the manipulative power of the camera to challenge issues of intimacy, societal power, loneliness, voyeurism, and individual agency. Displayed in a line referencing film and narration, the 200+ Polaroids invite viewers to engage with Nakadate’s subjects in their personal journeys.

A Yale graduate, Nakadate’s work was the subject of *Only the Lonely*, a 10-year retrospective at PS1, New York City. Her work has also been exhibited at the Getty Museum, Los Angeles; the Asia Society, New York City, the Reina Sofia, Madrid; the Berlin Biennial; Grand Arts, Kansas City; and at Leslie Tonkonow Artworks +Projects, New York City. Born in Austin Texas, the artist lives in Brooklyn, New York.

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. For more information visit www.FOTOFOCUScincinnati.org

The **FOTOFOCUS Lecture and Visiting Artist Series**, sponsored by Lightborne Inc., and formerly known as the Lightborne Lecture Series, invites renowned photographers to Cincinnati to share their work with the public and area college students. Since its 1996 inception as a free public lecture series showcased at the Cincinnati Art Museum, the program has expanded to include an Artist Residency at the Art Academy of Cincinnati. In the fall, area students work with the visiting artist during two three-day workshops, receive one-on-one critiques, and install an exhibition of the photographer’s art in the Art Academy Gallery. In the spring, an artist is invited for a three-day visit, with group and one-on-one critiques with students. To date over thirty artists have participated in the Series, including Laurie Simmons(www.lauriesimmons.net), Todd Hido (www.toddhido.com), Hank Willis Thomas (www.hankwillisthomas.com), Gregory Crewdson, Thomas Demand (www.thomasdemand.de), Joyce Tenneson (www.tenneson.com), and Doug Aitken (www.dougaitkenworkshop.com).

For a complete list of **FOTOFOCUS Lecture and Visiting Artist Series** participants visit www.FOTOFOCUScincinnati.org