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**FOTO
FEST
2010
BIENNIAL** **CONTEMPORARY
U.S. PHOTOGRAPHY**
MARCH 12 – APRIL 25, 2010
HOUSTON, TEXAS



Greta Pratt, *Alice Chatman*, 2009
From the series *Liberty*
From the FotoFest 2010 Biennial exhibition
The Road to Nowhere?

FOTOFEST 2010 BIENNIAL April-May 2010

Exhibitions, Films, Bike Scramble, Gallery Tours, Late Thursdays at FotoFest, School Tours for Students, Photo Trek, FotoFest at Discovery Green, FotoFence 2010

HOUSTON, TEXAS - APRIL 5, 2010 - As one of the world's largest celebrations of photography, the **FotoFest 2010 Biennial** adds a new series of programs in April and May 2010 to its ongoing exhibitions.

FOTOFEST 2010 BIENNIAL EXHIBITIONS

FotoFest's four principal Biennial exhibitions, dedicated to **Contemporary U.S. Photography**, continue through late April 2010. For the first time, FotoFest looks outside its own curatorial staff with commissions to outside curators to do the Contemporary U.S. Photography exhibitions.

"The 2010 Biennial shows the different perspectives of photographic art being created today and the perspectives of a new generation of curators," says FotoFest Artistic Director Wendy Watriss.

The Road to Nowhere?

FotoFest at Winter Street Studios, 2101 Winter St, Houston, Texas. Through April 25, 2010.

Curated by: Natasha Egan, Deputy Director, Museum of Contemporary Photography at Columbia College Chicago

Natasha Egan's selections explore the United States at the close of the "American Century" as the nation negotiates its transition from Cold War superpower to an embattled, economically fragile nation. Ms. Egan says, "The artists in this exhibition address a repertoire of diverse but related themes including politics, surveillance, race, war, and economic insecurity. While the work is oftentimes critical, a quintessentially American optimism is evident." Ms. Egan's selections include: **Sheila Pree Bright, Jeff Brouws, Tim Davis, Myra Greene, Eirik Johnson, Erika Larson, Jason Lazarus, An-My Lê, Nic Nicosia, David Oresick, Trevor Paglen, Greta Pratt, Michael Robinson, Victoria Sambunaris, Christina Seely, Paul Shambroom, Greg Stimac, and Brian Ulrich.**

Whatever Was Splendid: New American Photographs

FotoFest at Vine Street Studios, 1113 Vine Street, Houston, Texas. Through April 25, 2010.

Curated by: Aaron Schuman, Independent Curator, Editor, Founder, SeeSaw online magazine

Aaron Schuman explores the legacy and continued influence of a “thoroughly modern photographic figure,” Walker Evans. “The striking similarities between Evans’s time and our own have become all too clear,” says Mr. Schuman. “Bearing this in mind, I began to investigate his profound influence on how the United States is still responded to, regarded, recognized and represented within photography today.” The artists in Mr. Schuman’s exhibition are: **Will Steacy, Michael Schmelling, Greg Stimac, Tema Stauffer, Jason Lazarus, Jane Tam, Richard Mosse, Craig Mammano, Todd Hido, Hank Willis Thomas, and RJ Shaughnessy.**

Assembly: Eight Emerging Photographers from Southern California

FotoFest at Williams Tower, 2800 Post Oak, Houston, Texas. Through April 18, 2010.

Curated by: The curatorial team from the Wallis Annen-berg Department of Photography, Los Angeles County Museum of Art LACMA)

Charlotte Cotton and Edward Robinson are both transplants to Southern California. Their exhibition and the artists’ work in it, are a reflection of the region’s place in the American mythos. Mr. Robinson explains, “The cultural legacy of Southern California has engaged in an ongoing dialogue between utopian ideals and apocalyptic apprehension – the boosterism of the ‘end of the road’ state heralded for its promise and abundance, in contrast to concerns about the fragility of its natural and constructed environment.” The selected artists are: **Nicole Belle, Matthew Brandt, Peter Holzhauer, Whitney Hubbs, Matt Lipps, Joey Lehman Morris, Asha Schechter, and Augusta Wood.**

Mediation: Performing for the Screen

FotoFest at New World Museum; Art League, Houston; and Isabella Court. Through April 25, 2010.

Curated by: Gilbert Vicario, Curator, Des Moines Art Center, Des Moines, Iowa; Former Assistant Curator of Latin American Art and Latino Art, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

As a curator of contemporary art, Gilbert Vicario sees photography as just one of several media, including video, installation and performance, used by contemporary artists. In *Mediation*, Mr. Vicario, “explores the interrelationship between the digital image and notions of process and performance in contemporary art. Taking the media as a starting point and as an undeniable (though not unique) American phenomenon, artists in *Mediation* explore political, sexual, and cultural issues in a moment when the demise of traditional forms of communication: radio, television, film, and photography are giving way to an explosion of digitally-based forms of social interaction including Facebook and Twitter to file and video sharing sites such as YouTube, Xtube, MySpace.” Artists include: **Leslie Hall, Susanne Jirkuff, Adria Julia, Kalup Linzy, Daniel Joseph Martinez, Laurel Nakadate, Sandra Valenzuela, and Emilio Chapela.**

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

Discoveries of the Meeting Place

FotoFest at Allen Center One and Two, 500 Dallas St, Houston, Texas. Through April 23, 2010.

Drawn from FotoFest’s famous portfolio review program, *Discoveries of the Meeting Place*, showcases outstanding U.S. and international work discovered at the FotoFest international Meeting Place portfolio review in the FotoFest 2008 Biennial.

This exhibit is the eighth in a series that has proven to be a launching pad for photographic careers. As a showcase for some of the best work discovered at the FotoFest’s previous Biennial portfolio review, the *Discoveries* exhibition presents work chosen by ten reviewer/curators. Artists selected for the 2010 *Discoveries* exhibit are:

Andy Freeberg, (Mill Valley, CA), selected by **Karen Sinsheimer**, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA

Judy Haberl, (Newtonville, MA), selected by **Rhonda Wilson**, Rhubarb-Rhubarb, Birmingham, UK

Liz Hickok, (San Francisco, CA), selected by **Rixon Reed**, Photo-eye, Santa Fe, NM

Emma Livingston, (Buenos Aires, Argentina), selected by **Darren Ching & Debra Klomp Ching**, KlompChing Gallery, NY

Toby Morris, (Los Angeles, CA), selected by **Charles Stainback**, Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, FL
Rachel Papo, (Brooklyn, NY), selected by **Christopher Tannert**, Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin
Dona Schwartz, (Minneapolis, MN), selected by **William Ewing**, Musee de l'Elsee, Lausanne, Switzerland
Chris Sims, (Efland, NC), selected by **Pippa Oldfield**, Impressions Gallery, Bradford, UK
Sara Terry, (Los Angeles, CA), selected by **Sue Brisk**, Magnum Photo, NY
Ion Zupcu, (Hopewell Junction, NY), selected by **Madeline Yale**, Houston Center for Photography, Houston, TX

U.S. Vernacular and Chinese Modernism

The Architectural Center Houston (ArCH). 315 Capitol, Suite 120, Houston, Texas. Through April 25, 2010.

Xing Danwen (China), and Jim Vecchi, (U.S.A.).

This FotoFest exhibition contrasts small town regional U.S. architecture with urban modernist development in China.

The two-volume **FOTOFEST 2010 BIENNIAL CATALOGUE** has more than 300 color reproductions from FotoFest's exhibitions and those of independently Participating Spaces. The catalogue and other Biennial information are available at FotoFest Gallery Headquarters at Vine Street Studios, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston bookstore and the Houston Visitors Center.

FOTOFEST FILM SCREENINGS AT THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, HOUSTON

Brown Auditorium Theater, 1001 Bissonnet, Houston, Texas. April 9-18, 2010

Inspired by the FotoFest 2010 Biennial theme, Contemporary U. S. Photography, this companion film series, programmed by the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston Film Department, includes an acclaimed documentary about the late photographer Julius Shulman, a juried shorts showcase, and two documentaries about legendary photographer Robert Frank (b. 1924), whose films are archived and distributed by the museum. [WEBSITE](#)

Visual Acoustics: The Modernism of Julius Shulman, Directed by Eric Bricker, USA, 2008

(This Houston premiere is cosponsored by Rice Design Alliance and the American Institute of Architects-Houston Chapter)
April 9-11, 2010

Fire in the East: A Portrait of Robert Frank, Directed by Philip Brookman and Amy Brookman, USA, 1986

An American Journey, Directed by Philippe Séclier, France, 2009, French with English subtitles

April 15-18, 2010

Fifty years after the publication of Robert Frank's 1958 masterpiece, "The Americans," French filmmaker Philippe Séclier follows Robert Frank's footsteps, exploring the Beat Generation and the impact of "The Americans," on the art of photography and American culture.

The American Dream 2010: Visions of 21st century life in the Americas, from north to south,

FotoFest / Southwest Alternate Media Project (SWAMP) Short Films, Directed by Various, USA, 2009

April 18, 2010, 5pm

Short film by Texas Filmmakers on the theme of The American Dream 2010: Visions of 21st century life in the Americas, from north to south.

BIKE SCRAMBLE

Saturdays, April 10 and 17, 2010

Ride with FotoFest and visit photography exhibitions by FotoFest and Participating Spaces. The tour allows time for photo-ops, and participants' images may be included in the **Photo Trek** public outdoor projections at the **FotoFest at Discovery Green** event in Downtown Houston on May 1. Three bike routes are offered: *Downtown, Montrose, or Midtown/Museum District*. Bike the whole day or join at the start of a new route. www.fotofest.org/biennial2010/bikescramble.htm

LATE NIGHT THURSDAYS AT FOTOFEST

Thursdays, April 15 and 22, 2010, 6-8pm

FotoFest is offering two special Curatorial Tours, with local curators and professionals, of two of its Contemporary U.S. Photography exhibitions, on Thursdays, April 15 and 22. Refreshments will be served. Contact Jennifer Ward, FotoFest Exhibitions Coordinator, for details: 713.223.5522 ext 18, exhibits@fotofest.org

Thursday, April 15 - Winter Street Studios, ADDRESS, *The Road to Nowhere?*

Thursday, April 22 - New World Museum, ADDRESS, *Mediation: Performing for the Screen*

FAMILY DAY AT FOTOFEST: CHILDREN SEEING PHOTOGRAPHS

Winter Street Studios, 2101 Winter Street, Saturdays, April 10 and 17, 2010

Bring your family out for a free, casual, kid-friendly afternoon at the FotoFest exhibition at Winter Street Studios. Designed as a chance for adults to view the exhibit with children and engage in a selection of fun activities for kids ages 3-12. For details please contact Jennifer Ward, FotoFest Exhibitions 713.223.5522 ext 18, exhibits@fotofest.org

PHOTO TREK

SHARING YOUR FOTOFEST EXPERIENCE ON FLICKR. Through April 25, 2010

Over 110 spaces show photography during the FotoFest Biennial. FotoFest wants to see photographs of people "trekking" around the city to see all the exhibitions and events and is asking the public to share their 25 best images in the **FotoFest Flickr Pool**. The best will be included in a projected slide show at the **FotoFest at Discovery Green** event, Saturday, May 1, 2010, 6-9pm. www.flickr.com/groups/fotofest2010/pool

FOTOFEST AT DISCOVERY GREEN

Discovery Green Downtown. Saturday, May 1, 2010, 6-9pm

Celebrate photography in the park with Houston artists selling their work, live music, projections of photographs and video from the **Photo Trek** and Biennial events. Celebrate the six-week long FotoFest 2010 Biennial in Houston. More details about the Discovery Green event are available on the FotoFest website at www.fotofest.org.

TOURS FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS

Through April 25, 2010

Docent-led tours through the exhibitions for your students or school are available. Reserve your tour by contacting Kristin Skarbovig, FotoFest Literacy Through Photography, ltp@fotofest.org or 713.223.5522 ext 11.

TOURS FOR ORGANIZATIONS AND GROUPS

Through April 25, 2010

FotoFest offers Docent or Curator -led tours for adults. Reserve by contacting Jennifer Ward, FotoFest Exhibitions Coordinator, exhibits@fotofest.org or 713.223.5522 ext 18.

FOTOFENCE 2010 - LITERACY THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHY

FotoFest Headquarters Gallery, 1113 Vine Street, Houston, Texas. May 9 - 19, 2010. Reception: Sunday, May 9, 2-4pm

FotoFence is the annual exhibition of student photography and writing produced for FotoFest's Literacy Through Photography (LTP) school-based education program. The exhibit opens Sunday, May 9, 2010, 2-4pm at FotoFest Headquarters at Vine Street Studios, 1113 Vine Street, Houston 77002, with readings by LTP students, and free family portraits in the green-screen photo booth.

Over nine hundred student posters and essays from the 2009-2010 school year are being exhibited. LTP students' stories and photographs address experiences in their own lives, their communities, their families and dreams as well as social issues, such as climate change, animal rights and teen pregnancy. Participating schools include exemplary charter schools, inner-city schools and college preparatory schools. literacythroughphotography.fotofest.org

FOTOFEST PARTICIPATING SPACES

In April, ninety of the Biennial's participating venues in Houston, Galveston, and surrounding counties are continuing their exhibitions through mid and late April 25, 2010. Participating Spaces include the city's major museums and commercial galleries, non-profit spaces, artist-run spaces, corporate spaces, and retail establishments that choose to exhibit photographic art as part of the FotoFest Biennial. Spaces with exhibitions continuing into April are:

Museums

Museum of Fine Arts Houston; The Menil Collection; Station Museum of Contemporary Art; Contemporary Arts Museum Houston; Holocaust Museum Houston; Blaffer Gallery, The Art Museum of the University of Houston; Houston Museum of Natural Science; Museum of Printing History; The Heritage Society Museum

Commercial Art Galleries

Inman Gallery; McClain Gallery; John Cleary Gallery; Colton & Farb Gallery; Moody Gallery; De Santos Gallery; Anya Tish Gallery; Bering & James Inc.; Poissant Gallery; Redbud Gallery; Greenhouse Gallery; Goldesberry Gallery; Gremillion & Co. Fine Art; Archway Gallery; Betz Gallery; DARKE Gallery; 18 Hands Gallery; Designworks; Elder Street Gallery; G Gallery; H Gallery; Next Wall Gallery; The Olive Gallery; Seaside Gallery; Thornwood Gallery; Upstairs Room with a View Gallery; McWurthner Gallery

Non-Profit Art Spaces

DiverseWorks Art Space; Galveston Arts Center in Exile; Houston Center for Photography; Lawndale Art Center; Art Car Museum; Project Row Houses; Box13 Artspace; space125gallery at the Houston Arts Alliance; The Arts Alliance Center at Clear Lake; Art Guild of Rural Texas; Buffalo Bayou ArtPark; MECA (Multicultural Education & Counseling through the Arts); Spacetaker; Talento Bilingue de Houston Cultural Arts Center

University Art Spaces

Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture Gallery at the University of Houston; Annex Gallery at Houston Community College Southwest; The Art Institute of Houston; LSC Kingwood - Art Gallery; Fine Arts Gallery, Lone Star College-North Harris; Northline Art Gallery, Houston Community College NE; 3100 Main Street Gallery at Houston Community College

Non-Profit Spaces

Alzheimer's Association, Houston & SE Texas Chapter; Architecture Center Houston (ArCH); Havens Center, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church; The Jung Center of Houston; Robert I. Kahn Gallery of Congregation Emanu El; The Methodist Hospital Dunn Tower Mezzanine Gallery; Russian Cultural Center of "Our Texas"; Thoreau Unitarian Universalists Congregation; UTMSH Art Wall; Xnihilo Gallery; Houston City Council Lobby; Houston Visitors Center

Corporate Spaces

Bank of America Center (exhibition organized by Kinzelman Art Consulting); Gensler (exhibition organized by Kinzelman Art Consulting); 230 Westcott; BNIM Architects Houston; Stern and Bucek Architects, FKP Architects, m Architects; 1100 Louisiana (ASMP)

Artist Studios

Gabriella Nissen Photography; Green House Gallery; Hardy & Nancy Street Studio Complex; Mother Dog Studios; The Joanna

Retail, Commercial and Restaurant Spaces

The Artful Corner; AZ Lab and Giclee Gallery; Casa Ramirez Folkart; Gallery 1724; The H Gallery (located inside Hungry's Cafe & Bistro); Mixed Emotions Fine Art; Picnic; The Raven Grill, Domy Books; KHON's wine darts coffee art

MAJOR INSTITUTIONAL SPONSORS FOR THE FOTOFEST 2010 BIENNIAL

The Houston Endowment, Inc; The Cullen Foundation; The Brown Foundation, Inc; National Endowment for the Arts; ROMA Moulding; JPMorgan Chase; The Eleanor and Frank Freed Foundation; City of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance; Doubletree Hotel Houston Downtown; Texas Commission on the Arts; The Clayton Fund; Trust for Mutual Understanding; Continental Airlines - The Official Airline of the FotoFest 2010 Biennial; Iland Internet Solutions; HexaGroup; The Tasting Room/Max's Wine Dive; Under the Volcano; Saint Arnold Brewing Company; The Wortham Foundation; The Asian Cultural Council; American Society of Media Photographers (ASMP); Vine Street Studios; The Anchorage Foundation. Media Partners: Art in America; KUHF 88.7 FM; European Photography; Paris Photo

ROMA is the exclusive framer for the 2010 FotoFest Biennial.

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For more information on the FotoFest 2010 Biennial, please visit www.fotofest.org.

For Further information please contact:

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