Art Museum University of Toronto

Justina M. Barnicke Gallery University of Toronto Art Centre



The Art Museum at the University of Toronto will be presenting Counterpoints: Photography Through the Lens of Toronto Collections for the Scotiabank CONTACT Festival's 20th anniversary. Curated by Jessica Bradley, the exhibition opens to the public on May 6th, with a public reception on May 12, from 7-9 pm, and continues through to July 30, 2016.

Presented in both galleries that comprise the new Art Museum, Counterpoints gathers more than 100 images from over 20 private collections, revealing the remarkable breadth and depth of interest in photography in this city. The exhibition has evolved through the generosity of passionately committed collectors who granted the removal of works from their personal domestic and artistic spheres, allowing them to be seen by the public - many for the first time in Toronto. Counterpoints proposes a view of photography and some of its signal historical and contemporary transitions that is, like the daily experience of images, ultimately heterogeneous and non-linear. Spanning nearly two centuries, the exhibition comprises 19th century singular images captured on metal and glass plates, through to artists' works that acknowledge photography's endlessly reproducible, ubiquitous presence in a vast and ephemeral digital world. The exhibition features Canadian and international artists, including, among others, Rebecca Belmore, E.J. Bellocq, Richard Billingham, Robert Burley, Ed Burtynsky, Harry Callahan, Scott Conarroe, Andreas Feininger, LaToya Ruby Frazier, Lee Friedlander, Jim Goldberg, Rodney Graham, Lewis Hine, Sarah-Anne Johnson, Dorothea Lange, Suzy Lake, Meryl McMaster, Nicholas Nixon, Barbara Probst, Thomas Ruff, Cindy Sherman, Laurie Simmons, Michael Snow, Alec Soth, Daniel Steegmann Mangrané, Thomas Struth, Hiroshi Sugimoto, Stephen Waddell, Jeff Wall, and Ian Wallace.

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