

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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August 15, 2012

THE PRC IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE TWO CONCURRENT FALL EXHIBITIONS:

Rania Matar
Girls in Between: Portraits of Identity

Exhibition: September 6 – November 3, 2012

Opening Reception & Book Signing with the Artist: Thursday, September 6, 2012, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Location: PRC Gallery, 832 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston



Rania Matar, *Shannon, Boston 2010* from *A Girl and Her Room*, Archival Pigment Print, 28 x 42 inches

Rania Matar poignantly captures the elusive and mysterious moment in a girl's life when she is both a child and an emerging woman. Spurred on by her observations from her own daughters, Matar invites her subjects to decide for themselves how they will appear in a photograph and what parts of themselves they are willing to share with others. By establishing what she describes as "beautiful and intimate collaborations" with each girl she photographs, Matar uncovers a world so personal to each girl that the viewer walks away feeling as if he or she has met and had a conversation with each subject. The girls in Matar's photographs, from both the United States and Lebanon, simultaneously hide and expose themselves, exhibiting a dual vulnerability and ferocity completely unique to the female transition from girl to woman. This show features work from Matar's highly acclaimed project *A Girl and Her Room* as well as never-before-seen work from Matar's new project *L'Enfant-Femme*.

About the Artist

Rania Matar was born and raised in Lebanon and moved to the U.S. in 1984. Originally trained as an architect
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at the American University of Beirut and Cornell University, she studied photography at the New England School of Photography and the Maine Photographic Workshops in Mexico. She teaches photography at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design and in refugee camps in Lebanon. Matar has won numerous awards, including the 2011 Legacy Award at the Griffin Museum of Photography, 2007 and 2011 Massachusetts Cultural Council artist fellowship, first place at the New England Photographer Biennial, Women in Photography International, and the Prix de la Photographie Paris. She has accumulated honorable mentions at the 2010 UNICEF Picture of the Year Award, the 2010 Lens Culture Exposure International, the Silver Eye Center for Photography Fellowship, CENTER and the Photo Review. She was selected at one of the Top 100 Distinguished Women Photographers by Women in Photography, and was finalist for the distinguished Foster Award at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston. Among other exhibitions, Matar was also featured in EXPOSURE 2011, the 16th annual juried exhibition at the PRC. Her images are in the permanent collections of several museums worldwide.

A Girl and Her Room, published in 2012 by Umbrage Editions with essays by Anne Tucker and Susan Minot was chosen as a top fifty winner in Critical Mass. Her first book, *Ordinary Lives*, was published in 2009 by the Quantuck Lane Press with an essay by *New York Times* reporter Anthony Shadid.

***Being 13* by Nancy Grace Horton**

Exhibition: September 6 – November 3, 2012

Opening Reception: Thursday, September 6, 2012, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Location: PRC Gallery, 832 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston



Nancy Grace Horton, *With Chipuepuo*, 2008, Archival Pigment Print, 23 x 23 inches.

In this exhibition, Nancy Grace Horton explores her stepdaughter's navigation through the often monumental year of being 13. With Zoe as her muse, Horton captures priceless moments in the world of a girl who is leaving a part of herself behind while learning to embrace who she is becoming—Zoe expresses a variety of states peculiar to girls in their early teens: defiance, playfulness, embarrassment, youthfulness, continued >>

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boredom, and independence. Horton's enchanting photographs clearly depict her subject's blossoming sense of selfhood while also revealing the artist's deep affection for and fascination with her subject.

About the Artist

Nancy Grace Horton holds an MFA in Visual Arts from the Art Institute of Boston at Lesley University and has been working as a freelance photographer and educator for over 20 years. She is the recipient of numerous grants and awards, most recently an Artists Entrepreneurial Grant from the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, where she is also a Rostered Artist. She lives between Maine and New Hampshire and takes yearly visits to rural Mexico where she creates photo-based cultural exchange projects for kids. As the featured artist for the Portsmouth, New Hampshire Library Artist Curated Book Display, she exhibited a hand made book entitled *Mad Women*, part of her newest series of work. She is known locally for her popular photo book Portsmouth. In 2012 her photographs were featured in *PRC in NYC* at the New York Photo Festival and will also be included in the Griffin Museum of Photography's 18th Juried Exhibition. About Horton's work *The New York Times* best-selling author Jodi Picoult comments, "My eye was drawn to Horton's images immediately—I found them evocative and haunting, as if each one held a story of its own."

About the Photographic Resource Center at Boston University

Founded in 1976, the Photographic Resource Center (PRC) at Boston University is an independent non-profit organization that serves as a vital forum for the exploration and interpretation of new work, ideas, and methods in photography and related media. The PRC presents exhibitions, fosters education, develops resources, and facilitates community interaction for local, regional, and national audiences. Cited by the Boston Globe as "one-stop shopping for the photo buff," the PRC's gallery hosts several exhibitions each year, emphasizing new ideas and trends in contemporary photography. Ranging from provocative theme-based exhibitions to the highly anticipated juried and student exhibitions, the PRC expands our understanding of the human experience through its stewardship of the photographic arts.

www.prcboston.org

For high resolution images from both exhibitions, please go to:

http://www.bostonphotographyfocus.org/ftp/Matar_Horton_HR_images.zip

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