

## ***Early Works:***

***The PRC presents a multi-part celebration of photographic talent, expressed early on...***

Exhibition dates: January 22 – March 15, 2015; Reception: Thursday, February 19, 5:30-8pm

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Boston, MA — The Photographic Resource Center is proud to present a **celebration of early photographic talent in a unique, multi-part exhibition event**, centered around the PRC's presentation of *Early Works*, curated by Laura Moya & Laura Valenti of Portland, Oregon and the prominent photographic non-profit Photolucida.

The traveling exhibition *Early Works* (January 22 – March 15, 2015) examines **imagery made by contemporary photographers when they were children**. The PRC joins a **notable roster of venerable venues** that have shown *Early Works*: the Sol Mednick Gallery at the University of the Arts (Philadelphia, PA), The Center for Fine Art Photography (Fort Collins, CO), Rayko Photo Center (San Francisco, CA), and the Newspace Center for Photography (Portland, OR).

In conjunction with this fascinating show, **the PRC will showcase the work of members and local luminaries in two additional parts in the gallery**. Both PRC offerings will run concurrently with *Early Works*, with a reception, free and open to the public, on **Thursday, February 19th, 5:30-8pm**.

- 1.) ***Early Works, Online***: an online show culled from the PRC's Flickr feed of early works submitted by members. This work will be displayed in a media lounge in the gallery from January 22nd to February 18th, and then continue online.
- 2.) ***Early Works, Greater Boston***: a complimentary show of early works by invited regional artists, gallerists, professors, curators, photojournalists, and more, running February 19th to the end of exhibition (see **preliminary list on next page**).



Frederick Sharpe (Ontario, Canada): "Genesis," 1956, taken with a Brownie camera received after recovering from a serious blood infection and a 2-year stay in the hospital, age 9

The *Early Works* curators observe the following, which applies to the PRC's complementary offerings as well: "These early images often reveal surprising talent, visual intuition, and honesty. Kept for many decades in shoeboxes and faded albums, the images are often cherished belongings that play a key role in defining the self as artist. This exhibition is a close look at photographers' earliest works, paired with personal narratives about the images and their role in each photographers' development as an artist."

Participating artists in *Early Works* range from a **professor at the University of the Arts** (Anne Leighton Massoni) to the **founder and editor of the journal *The Photo Review*** (Stephen Perloff) to **regional fine arts and editorial photographer and RISD faculty** (Jesse Burke) to **internationally-acclaimed artists** (Roger Ballen). Presented on panels featuring images together with stories, *Early Works* includes **34 international photographers**: Corey Arnold, Roger Ballen, Douglas Beasley, Steven Beckly, Sheri Lynn Behr, Lori Bell, Jesse Burke, Richard S. Chow, Joseph Deiss, Maureen Drennan, Deena Feinberg, Gloria Baker Feinstein, Rich Frishman, Michael Jang, Zoltan Jokay, Ann Kendellen, Lewis Koch, Hannah Kozak, Varese Layzer, Phoebe Lickwar, Jim Lommasson, Anne Leighton Massoni, David Pace, Stephen Perloff, Jaime Permut, Alexis Pike, Jordan Reznick, Trix Rosen, T. Scott, Jack Semura, Frederick Sharpe, Marsha Stewart, Stephanie Williamson, Charlyn Zlotnik. Website: [www.earlyworksproject.org](http://www.earlyworksproject.org).

**CURATOR BIOGRAPHIES** — Laura Moya: Director of [Photolucida](http://Photolucida.org) since 2006, Laura has juried for Critical Mass, Blue Sky Gallery's Northwest Drawers, United Photo Industries and PhotoPlace Gallery. She has curated exhibits at 23 Sandy Gallery in Portland (*Photo Alchemy: An Exhibition of Alternative Process Photography*, and *Resurrection: A New Look at Old Photographic Processes*), at the Lishui International Photo Festival in China (*Desiree Edkins, Lori Vrba*), and the Xiang Sha Wan Photo Festival in Inner Mongolia (*Kathleen Laraia McLaughlin, Nancy Newberry, Jane Alden Stevens*). Laura has also written pieces for *Finite Foto* (*Lisa Law, Taj Forer*), Griffin Museum's Critic's Pick (*Chris McCaw*), and Photo-eye 's blog (*Lucas Foglia*). Laura Valenti: [Laura Valenti](http://LauraValenti.com) is a photographer, curator, educator, and arts director based in Portland, Oregon. She works as Outreach Director at Photolucida, a nonprofit that works to build connections between photographers and the gallery and publishing worlds. Previously, she worked as Program Director and co-Curator at Newspace Center for Photography. Laura curates photography exhibitions around the country and juries competitions regularly. She has also served as a reviewer at various portfolio review events, such as Houston FotoFest, Review Santa Fe, and Photolucida. She just finished curating a major northwest photography exhibit for the Oregon Historical Society. Laura also teaches online courses about photography and the creative process.

**EXHIBITION HOURS**: Thursdays, 11-8pm and Fridays 11-4pm, with additional hours to be announced.  
The PRC's 5,000-volume Aaron Siskind library will also be open the same hours.

## *A celebration of Early Works at the Photographic Resource Center, continued*

**PRC Part I: *Early Works, ONLINE*** (shown in the gallery 1/22 - 2/18, and online): Get ready to rifle through your closets and access your archives! Inspired by the PRC's popular show "MY FIRST PHOTO" shown at the Paradise Lounge Gallery (2004) and for this fun, online exhibition, we seek work of what you consider to be an "early work" or even "your first photograph," broadly defined. This might include: 1.) an early significant work, made at a watershed moment 2.) the first photo for which you snapped the shutter 3.) the first photo you printed or oversaw from start to finish 4.) the closest to your first photo you can still locate (or want to share) 5.) or even, possibly a recreation of any of the aforementioned. Works will be uploaded, along with your name, age, and story, to the PRC's Flickr feed as a part of the special online exhibition: [www.flickr.com/photos/prcboston](http://www.flickr.com/photos/prcboston). Whether you submit it to the online show or not, treasure your first photo, we all had to start somewhere!

*Eligibility:* You don't even have to be an artist to participate, but we do ask that you are a **PRC Member**. The best part, the playing field is leveled. One of the former PRC Curator's early works, for example, is a photogram of sunglasses and shells made when she was five years old. **More information about how to email and submit** your *Early Work* photograph via email, please visit [www.prcboston.org/exhibit/exhibit2015\\_earlyworks.htm](http://www.prcboston.org/exhibit/exhibit2015_earlyworks.htm).

**PRC Part II: *Early Works, GREATER BOSTON*** (shown in the gallery 2/19 - 3/15): The PRC is inviting a host of local luminaries — ranging from regional artists, gallerists, professors, curators, editorial photographers, photojournalists, and more — to share their early photographs as well as stories. This will be a wonderful opportunity to see sparks of creativity from some of our favorite photographic supporters, early on! **Confirmed to date: Randall Armor (NESOP), John Goodman, Lou Jones, Lauren Shaw (Emerson), Vaughn Sills (Simmons), and Peter Southwick (BU)**. A forthcoming Media Alert will include more information on this portion and list of all featured participants. Please contact [bruceymren@prcboston.org](mailto:bruceymren@prcboston.org) for *Early Works* press images.

Sample image and text from *Early Works*, a traveling exhibition curated by Laura Moya and Laura Valenti:

"This is a picture of my nephew, Bobby. My sisters are 16 and 18 years older than me (same parents, but that's another story) and Bobby, my oldest nephew, is only three years younger than me. As I recall, the car was a Studebaker. The wisteria vine that grew up the side of the garage and onto the roof seemed magical to me, like the beanstalk in 'Jack and the Beanstalk.' The garage was in back of the house and during our snowy winters in northeastern Pennsylvania, a man with a plow on a Jeep would plow the driveway and push the snow out of the way to the right, just in front of where the car is parked. That made for fabulous snow forts, higher than us, that lasted the whole season. A few years later, a basketball hoop and wooden backboard went up on the garage and the driveway became the scene of intense games of 21, Around the World, and Horse.

Here you can see that I am already adapting the tilted frame that Robert Frank used in *The Americans*, and how, with my growing visual sophistication, I use the shadow of the garage roof, which runs from the top of the child's dark pants to the bottom of the car bumper, to tie together the main elements of the picture. Plus, I'm certain that this image greatly influenced Garry Winogrand's 1957 photograph of a child in a driveway titled 'New Mexico.'" — SP

*A photographer, curator, collector, and publisher, Stephen Perloff is founder and editor of The Photo Review, a critical journal of international scope publishing since 1976, and editor of The Photograph Collector, the leading source of information on the photography art market.*



Stephen Perloff (Greater Philadelphia, PA):  
"Child in Driveway," 1956, age 8

### **UPCOMING GENERAL PRC PROGRAMMING:**

#### ▶ **"Nights at the PRC"—Wednesday, February 4, 6:30-8:30pm: "Camilo Ramirez: On the Road."**

Nights are held the first Wednesday of every month. Each led by a different local artist and with a different theme, these events are an opportunity for members to share and discuss their work. To sign up and for more information about Nights and our hosts, visit [www.prcboston.org/nightsprc.htm](http://www.prcboston.org/nightsprc.htm).

**Who and where we are:** 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. Cited by the *Boston Globe* as "one-stop shopping for the photo buff," the PRC provides a highly acclaimed exhibition program, workshops, special events, and an over 5,000-volume resource library to our members and the general public. It is supported by grants from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, several private foundations, and the ongoing generosity of its members. Featured artists and speakers in our galleries and workshops have included such luminaries as Ansel Adams, William Wegman, Abelardo Morell, Duane Michals, Bruce Davidson, and Annie Leibowitz, to name a few. The Photographic Resource Center is located at 832 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA, 02215 (BU West T stop on the B Green Line), 617-975-0600 (phone), 617-975-0606 (fax), email [info@prcboston.org](mailto:info@prcboston.org). Hours are Thursdays 11am to 8pm & Fridays 11am to 4pm, and by appointment. **Admission is free for this exhibition, but a suggested donation of \$5 is encouraged and appreciated.** The PRC is always free to members, institutional member colleges and programs, and to school groups with appointments. The PRC is accessible.