

2004 PRC MEMBERS' EXHIBITION

Photographic Talent Showcased in Annual Juried Show

June 18-July 25, 2004

Opening reception, Thursday, June 24, 5:30-7:30pm



Each year, the Photographic Resource Center at Boston University is pleased to host a juried exhibition for its members. This year, 14 photographers were selected out of 144 submissions. The objective for this prestigious exhibition perhaps rings even more true than when it was first announced in the PRC newsletter in 1996: "[the Members' show] signals the Center's deepening commitment to area artists and its support of the range of photography

produced in the New England region."

Jessica Jacobs, *Behind Door #2*, 2003 C-Print, 30 x 30 inches

PRC members' show history

The 2004 *PRC Members' Exhibition* represents the ninth incarnation of this event. As PRC membership extends over New England and beyond, this is a great opportunity to view a slice of the best and brightest as well as see topics in which contemporary minds are engaged. The *PRC Members' Exhibition* is a testament to the depth of talent in the PRC membership. In total, over 200 photographers have shown in the *PRC Members' Exhibitions*—representing both established photographers and those cited as “ones to watch”. Guest jurors represent esteemed curators, photographers and photography professionals. Past jurors of the *PRC Members' Exhibition* have included: Chris Enos, artist, educator and founder of the PRC; Diana Gaston, Independent Curator; Deborah Kao, Curator of Photography, Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University; Richard Woodward, Editor at Large, *Doubletake Magazine*; and Edward Earle, Curator of Digital Media, International Center of Photography. Work by every artist will be highlighted in the July/August issue of the PRC newsletter, *in the loupe*.

About the 2004 juror, Rachel Rosenfield Lafo

Rachel Rosenfield Lafo is the Director of Curatorial Affairs at the DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park. Lafo has organized over 50 contemporary art exhibitions, including the prestigious DeCordova Annual focusing on New England artists, and written corresponding catalogues for the last 20 years. Included among Lafo's exhibitions are *Self-Evidence: Identity in Contemporary Art*; *Clara Wainwright: Quiltmaker and Celebration Artist*; *Joseph Wheelwright: Stone Heads and Tree Figures*; *Painting in Boston: 1950-2000*; *Photography in Boston: 1955-1985*; and *Living Water: Photographs of the Sudbury River by Frank Golhke*. She has been a visiting critic, panelist, and juror for many organizations. Previously, Lafo was a curator at the Portland Art Museum (Oregon) and an administrator at the Center for Conservation and Technical Studies at Harvard University. She has taught courses in Museum Studies at Tufts University and Boston University.

2004 Photographers Highlighted

Lynda Banzi
Gloria DeFilipps Brush
Lana Z. Caplan
Monique Marie Deschaines
Ellen Feldman
Kate P. Freedberg
Jessica Jacobs
Alison Lessmann
Sarah Malakoff
Julie Melton
Robin Radin
Nancy C. Scull
Rebecca Sittler
Peter Smuts

Juror, Rachel Rosenfield Lafo, Director of Curatorial Affairs, DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPHERS

Lynda Banzi (Cambridge, MA) photographs domestic spaces of friends and family. As such, she offers us glimpses into lives and environments as well as the ways in which people project their identity onto personal spheres. Banzi is currently a graduate student at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts (SMFA), Boston. **Sarah Malakoff** (Roslindale, MA) also images interiors, but uses people's articles as raw material to re-create new tableaux. We are invited to imagine the occupants and deconstruct a seemingly mundane scene for exaggerated or invented narratives. Malakoff is a graduate of SMFA. **Alison Lessmann** (Boston, MA) meticulously choreographs and constructs settings featuring people watching television. The simulated light from the screen infuses the scenes with an eerie glow that recalls the theatrical compositions of renaissance painting. Lessmann is a recent dual degree recipient from SMFA and Tufts University.

Lana Z. Caplan (Boston, MA) has been working within venerable traditions of still-life and 19th century alternative processes, yet turning them on their heads. Her choice of unique objects and surreal compositions is delightfully expressed through the luscious qualities of oversized tintypes. Caplan will begin her MFA at Massachusetts College of Art (Mass Art) this fall and is represented by Gallery NAGA. **Monique Marie Deschaines's** (San Francisco, CA) series "Strange Beauty" involves drying out and reconstituting leftover and unbought flowers. The beautifully decayed flora mutates in appearance and meaning when submerged and photographed. Deschaines pursued undergraduate studies at SMFA, and is presently working toward her MFA at the San Francisco Art Institute. **Gloria DeFilipps Brush** (Duluth, MN) is interested in the interplay between text and object and image. In her *Language III* series, pictures are digitally constructed and mediated from multiple camera sources. Brush is a professor of art and photography at the University of Minnesota, Duluth. **Jessica Jacobs** (New London, NH) creates fantastic environments via lush color and strange juxtapositions. Through constructed still-lives and sculptural elements, she creates "stand ins" for emotional landscapes. Holding an MFA from the Savannah College of Art and Design, Jacobs teaches at Colby-Sawyer College.

Ellen Feldman (Cambridge, MA) is a street photographer who is drawn to natural framing devices and their aesthetic and philosophical implications. Feldman holds a Ph.D. in cinema studies from New York University and is a member of the Photography Atelier at Lesley University. Although now a resident of New England, **Julie Melton** (Carlisle, MA) has been documenting family and neighbors in her native Montana. Her beautifully composed images depict the area and landscape she still calls home. Melton is a custom printer at Palm Press Inc., in Concord, MA. **Robin Radin** (Jamaica Plain, MA) explores the lives of Latino and African-American children in her neighborhood. A culmination of her ongoing documentation of Jamaica Plain, this series investigates growing up from a girl's point of view. Radin holds a BFA from SMFA and a MFA from MassArt. **Nancy C. Scull's** (Cambridge, MA) meditative studies represent her passion for Cape Cod and its surrounding environs. In this series, she concentrates on the play of light on the marsh tides, resulting in lush, simple, and abstract images. Scull is a teaching assistant at the New England School of Photography.

Rebecca Sittler (Orlando, FL) uses common objects to create uncommon work. Through her humorous and surrealist juxtapositions, her chosen items become actors in larger than life colorful narratives. Sittler received her MFA in photography from MassArt and now holds a teaching position at the University of Central Florida. **Kate P. Freedberg** (Cambridge, MA) has been collaborating on a photographic project with her dog Ursulina. Using a remote camera attached to the dog's halter, Freedberg presses a button and the pug does the rest. Freedberg holds degrees from SMFA and Hampshire College. **Peter Smuts** (Somerville, MA) photographs toys on a grand scale. In his playful and colorful series "Charismatic Megafauna," Smuts explores meaning, reality and camera sight—transforming small plastic animals using a large format camera. A graduate of NYU, Smuts is represented by the Pepper Gallery.

AFTERPARTY! Following the reception for the Members' Exhibition, Thursday, June 24th at the PRC, we'll keep the celebration going down the street at the Paradise Lounge, 969 Commonwealth Avenue, until 9pm. Excellent food, fine libations, cool vibes, and no cover await at this fitting PRC neighborhood hangout! Visit www.thedise.com for more information.

***PLEASE NOTE: THE EXHIBITION WILL BE CLOSED
FOURTH OF JULY WEEKEND (JULY 2-5)
In addition, the PRC closes for the month of August.***

For more information contact:
Leslie Brown, Curator
832 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02215
(617) 975-0600, (617) 975-0606 (fax)
email: lbrown@bu.edu

Who and where we are: The Photographic Resource Center is a non-profit organization that exists to facilitate the study and dissemination of information related to photography. Operating from the campus of Boston University, it provides a highly acclaimed exhibition program, a bi-monthly newsletter, lectures, workshops, special events, and a 4,000-volume resource library to our members and the general public. It is supported by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the Boston Cultural Council, numerous private foundations, and the ongoing generosity of its members. The PRC is located at 832 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA, 02215. Public transportation: Green B Line, outbound, BU West stop. Hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10 to 6pm, Thursdays from 10 to 8pm, Saturday and Sunday 12-5pm. Admission is \$3/general public, \$2/students and seniors and free to all on Thursdays and on the last weekend of every month. The PRC is always free to members, Institutional Plus member schools, children under 18, BU students, faculty, and staff, as well as all school groups with appointments. For more information visit our website at www.prcboston.org. The PRC is fully accessible.