

November 2011  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



# MoCP

Museum of  
**Contemporary Photography**

COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO  
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***The Limits of Photography***  
January 21—March 25, 2012

**PUBLIC RECEPTION**  
Thursday, January 26, 2012, 5—7pm

**Featuring the work of:**

**John Brill**  
**Randy Hayes**  
**Daniel Hojnacki**  
**Sally Ketcham**  
**Vera Klement**  
**Curtis Mann**  
**JJ Murphy**  
**Chris Naka**  
**Rhona Shand**  
**Doug Stapleton**

**Chicago** – “The Limits of Photography” explores the area where the viewer loses confidence in the veracity of a photographically based work. We have been confident

since the beginning of widely published photographic images in the late 1920s that photographs are telling us something very truthful about the world. This notion can be challenged when the photograph is manipulated to the point of losing our trust both in its identity as a photograph and subsequently in its veracity as a document. A subtext of the exhibition is how long we can still identify a photograph as a photograph, and the parallel realization of how good we are at confusing photography with reality.

The exhibition also contains a wide variety of contemporary mixed media and alteration/manipulation. Some of these departures from photographic purity result in very minimal imagery and some in dense, intricate detail. Taken as a whole this work results in something more akin to a series of partially remembered dreams than to a clear report or document.

— Rod Slemmons, Curator at Large, Museum of Contemporary Photography

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### **MoCP SPONSORS**

The exhibitions, presentations, and related programs of the MoCP are sponsored in part by After School Matters; the Terra Foundation for American Art; the Lannan Foundation; the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation; the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; the National Endowment for the Arts; the David C. and Sarajeon Ruttenberg Arts Foundation, the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, American Airlines, the official airline of the MoCP; and our members.

### **ABOUT THE CURATOR**

Rod Slemmons was the director of the Museum of Contemporary Photography from 2002 to 2011. Previously he was Curator of Prints and Photographs at the Seattle Art Museum for 14 years and taught history of photography and graduate museum studies at the University of Washington. He is currently Director of Special Projects in the Office of Academic Research, Columbia College, and Curator at Large for MOCP.

### **ABOUT MOCP**

The Museum of Contemporary Photography (MoCP), a resident organization of Columbia College Chicago, is the only museum in the Midwest with an exclusive commitment to the medium of photography. By presenting projects and exhibitions that embrace a wide range of contemporary aesthetics and technologies, the MoCP strives to communicate the value and significance of photographic images as expressions of human thought, imagination, and creativity.

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### **PRESS CONTACTS**

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### **IMAGE:**

John Brill, *Self Portrait, Lodi NJ* 1987. Courtesy of Kent Fine Art, New York