

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY

2019

ANNUAL REPORT



MoCP Museum of
Contemporary
Photography

Columbia
COLLEGE CHICAGO



LETTER FROM THE MoCP ADVISORY BOARD CHAIR

This past year at the Museum of Contemporary Photography has provided a testament to the power of the image. The museum has mounted exhibitions both timely and historically significant, from Lucas Foglia's striking environmental images to photographs examining global migration.

This season, our museum introduced a new generation of Chicagoans to the contributions of local artist Ralph Arnold, while also highlighting local photographer and Columbia faculty member Dawoud Bey, whose powerful work continues to deeply inform the contemporary photographic conversation.

From an organizational perspective, this has been a year of growth, as we have welcomed Michael Belsley and Nina Owen, both of whom offer invaluable experience, expertise, and enthusiasm, to the Advisory Board. We are all greatly looking forward to working with them in the years ahead.

To all our board members: thank you for all your hard work this past year. DARKROOM was a tremendous success. This year's co-chairs Ted Keim and Marisa Murillo, along with honorary co-chairs Bill and Vicki Hood, organized an unforgettable evening where we honored Silver Camera Awardee Lalla Essaydi and celebrated Chicago's photography community.

The MoCP is a unique institution that serves local and worldwide audiences by starting dialogues and anticipating what is on the horizon in image-making. On behalf of the Advisory Board, thank you to everyone who has helped the museum achieve so much in the past year!

Robert A. Wislow
Advisory Board Chair



Aaron Siskind
Martha's Vineyard Rocks, 1954; print c. 1969–70



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am proud to report that this past year has been one of tremendous strides for the MoCP. Over 42,000 visitors have experienced the MoCP's innovative exhibitions and programs during the 2018–19 season, including 6,000 students—nearly double the number of students that visited the MoCP last year!

Some exhibition highlights have included *The Many Hats of Ralph Arnold: Art, Identity & Politics*, part of the Terra Foundation's year-long initiative Art Design Chicago, an exploration of Chicago's art and design legacy. The exhibition presented the work of Chicago artist Ralph Arnold, whose multi-layered work signified an important turning point in Chicago's art history. While that exhibition highlighted the MoCP's connection to Chicago's local history, *Stateless: Views of Global Migration*, sparked a globally-minded conversation about migration and the refugee crisis.

Both exhibitions included thought-provoking symposiums that brought together dynamic artists, scholars, and community organizers from Chicago and beyond to explore these rich topics.

We have also presented a diverse slate of teen programs and education initiatives, including expanded tours and print viewings through our bus subsidy program, which supports the transportation of CPS students to the museum. Events like the Teen Summit in conjunction with *Stateless: Views of Global Migration* brought about an in-depth exploration of themes from the exhibition through workshops with teaching artists and local educational partnerships. We are thrilled that more young people are engaging with the museum than ever before.

During this past year, we welcomed a new staff member, Patrick Thornton, as our

new Administrative Assistant and Shop Manager. In other staff news, Curatorial Fellow for Diversity in the Arts Dalina Aimée Perdomo Álvarez has finished her first year of her fellowship. Her capstone exhibition *Temporal: Puerto Rican Resistance* will be opening at the museum in April 2020, capturing very timely issues affecting Puerto Rico through photography and the moving image.

Thank you to everyone who has made this past season hugely successful, and those who are helping us pave the way for the future. We are especially grateful for the generous donation from the Sonia Bloch Memorial Fund for Emerging Artists. This gift will allow the MoCP to continue to support emerging photographers and enhance our collection.

I would like to extend a note of sincere thanks to the MoCP Advisory Board members, Museum Council members, artists, benefactors, and museum staff. Together, we can ensure that the MoCP continues to be a resource for the photography community for years to come!

Natasha UK

Natasha Egan
Executive Director





LETTER FROM THE MUSEUM COUNCIL PRESIDENT

The Museum Council's year has been an exciting one, focused on member engagement and special events. As an auxiliary group, the council connects like-minded contemporary art and photography enthusiasts. Together, ranging from Columbia College Chicago alumni to professionals in Chicago, we as individuals draw upon our passions and unique backgrounds to support the museum and its mission.

Over the last few months, the council's activities have been rich and varied. We have welcomed new members, had thoughtful conversations about each other's photographs as part of a Show and Tell exchange, visited behind the scenes of in-progress exhibition installation at the MoCP, and had private tours at Carrie Secrist Gallery and the Gage Gallery at Roosevelt University. In collaboration with MoCP staff, the council again successfully hosted both the MoCP After Dark and FIRST LOOK events, helping to raise the profile of the museum and fostering support of its special exhibitions and educational programs.

As both a platform for members to connect professionally and socially, I am incredibly pleased with the outcomes of our aforementioned special events. We are also especially grateful to MoCP After Dark co-host Maya

Camille Broussard of Justice of the Pies, as well as the four new artists who have joined our Fine Print Program: Daniel Castro-Garcia, Krista Franklin, Natalie Krick, and Diana Matar. The council appreciates the generous support of donors, museum staff, student interns, council members, and attendees in making our events a great success.

In the coming year, I will be committed to making the Museum Council an accessible group that plans and facilitates rewarding experiences for our members and those individuals we connect to the museum and its dynamic programming. As the museum grows and deepens its presence in the cultural landscape of our city, I thank our dedicated executive team as well as our new and long-standing members, for serving as enthusiastic ambassadors of the MoCP.

Genia Yovankin

Museum Council President



Lucas Foglia

Muddle with Invasive Water Lilies, North Carolina 2008



EXHIBITIONS



LUCAS FOGLIA: HUMAN NATURE

JULY 19 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

In this exhibition, Lucas Foglia explored the relationship between humans and nature, particularly disputing the notion that people and nature are at odds. His project probes our relationship to the wilderness, ultimately inviting us to ponder our inherently animal nature, and to understand our fundamental connection to the earth for health and happiness.

VIEW FINDER: LANDSCAPE AND LEISURE IN THE COLLECTION

Presenting a selection of historical and contemporary works from the MoCP's permanent collection and the Midwest Photographers Project, *View Finder: Landscape and Leisure in the Collection* considered the varied ways designated outdoor spaces enhance human experience, from allowing for rest and refuge, to their ability to meet other, more subliminal needs.

ARTISTS:

Ansel Adams	William Henry Jackson
David Avison	Justin Kimball
Jonas N.T. Becker	Orit Siman-Tov
Marilyn Bridges	Neal Slavin
Terry Evans	Greg Stimac

PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

July 21, 2018—Urban Nature Walk. Lucas Foglia and author Gavin Van Horn (Center for Humans and Nature) led a guided urban nature walk. Participants discovered native plant landscapes and pollinator pathways, as well as the way natural spaces can awaken our sense of connection to the built environment. The walk culminated with a visit to the exhibition.

July 26, 2018—Teen Night. Chicago teens were invited to participate in an evening of teen-led programs, including a photo scavenger hunt, making zines and buttons about environmental issues, and an art share.



Lucas Foglia
Kenzie in a Crevasse, Juneau Icefield Research Program, Alaska 2016



Greg Stimac
Badlands (Christian Bus Group), 2006

August 11, 2018—Family Day: Natural Elements. Kids of all ages and their grownups participated in a sun print workshop and other interactive activities relating to nature.

September 13, 2018—Florence Williams: The Nature Fix. Florence Williams is a journalist, podcaster, and bestselling author of *The Nature Fix: Why nature makes us happier, healthier, and more creative*, as well as a Fellow at the Center for Humans and Nature. Williams discussed her book, which explores the powers

of the natural world to improve health, promote reflection and innovation, and ultimately strengthen our relationships.

PRESS FOR LUCAS FOGLIA AND VIEW FINDER APPEARED IN:

Chicago Magazine, Time Out – Chicago, Crain's Chicago Business, Photo District News

THE MANY HATS OF RALPH ARNOLD: ART, IDENTITY & POLITICS

OCTOBER 11 – DECEMBER 21, 2018

During the tumultuous 1960s and 70s, the prolific artist Ralph Arnold made photocollages that appropriated and commented upon mass media portrayals of gender, sexuality, race and politics. Arnold's complex visual arrangements of photography, painting and text were built upon his own multilayered identity as a black, gay veteran and prominent member of Chicago's art community.

ECHOES: REFRAMING COLLAGE

A companion exhibition to *The Many Hats of Ralph Arnold: Art, Identity & Politics*, *Echoes: Reframing Collage* examined the parallels between Arnold's work and 21st-century photocollage artists including Derrick Adams, Krista Franklin, Wardell Milan, Ayanah Moor, Nathaniel Mary Quinn, Paul Mpagi Sepuya, and Xaviera Simmons. These contemporary works serve to further deepen our understanding of Arnold's lasting contribution.

These exhibitions were both part of Art Design Chicago, an exploration of Chicago's art and design legacy, an initiative of the Terra Foundation for American Art with presenting partner The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation. They received funding from The Andy Warhol Foundation, the Terra Foundation for American Art, The Joyce Foundation, and by the Chicago Community Trust.



Derrick Adams
Don't Come for Me Unless I Send for You, 2016-17

PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

September 15, 2018—Celebrating South Side Stories. The MoCP presented two workshops at the Hyde Park Art Center during this all-day festival that kicked off a series of exhibitions and projects about the history of South Side art and design.

This program was in partnership with the Smart Museum of Art at the University of Chicago, DuSable Museum of African American History, Hyde Park Art Center, and South Side Community Art Center.

October 12, 2018—"Say It With Pictures" Then and Now: Chicago's African American Photographers. MoCP hosted art historian Amy Mooney in conversation with the esteemed photography scholar Deborah Willis in an unprecedented reveal of the forgotten work of African American photographers working in Chicago from the 1890s through the 1930s.

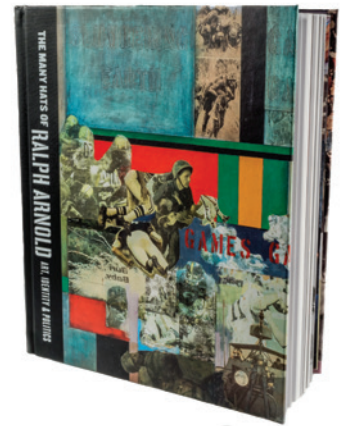
October 22, 2018—Curatorial Tour and Gallery Talk. Guest curator Greg Foster-Rice and MoCP chief curator and deputy director Karen Irvine gave a special tour of *The Many Hats of Ralph Arnold* and *Echoes: Reframing Collage*. Exhibiting artists Krista Franklin, Ayanah Moor, and Nathaniel Mary Quinn were present to talk about their work.

October 19-20, 2018—Symposium: Unfinished Business! The South Side and Chicago Art. Through a series of panels and intergenerational dialogues, the symposium connected the history of the South Side to the

present moment, in which the community, its arts organizations, and artists continue to play a central role in the visual culture and artistic dialogue of Chicago's vibrant art and design community.

Unfinished Business! was presented as part of Art Design Chicago in partnership with the Mary Jane Crowe Conference Fund at Northwestern University and the Smart Museum of Art at the University of Chicago.

November 14, 2018—Video Playlist: Ralph Arnold and Outtakes. Curated by Romi Crawford, Professor in the Visual and Critical Studies and Liberal Arts departments at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, this selection of video and film works about race and sexuality included works by artists Shari Frilot, Reginald Woolery, Elizabeth Axtman, and Tom Palazallo.



PUBLICATION

Edited by: Greg Foster-Rice, with essays by Sheridan Tucker Anderson, Aaron Cohen, Greg Foster-Rice, Jacqueline Francis, Karen Irvine, Keith Anthony Morrison, Timothy Stewart-Winter, and Rebecca Zorach.

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Printed by: Curtis 1000

PRESS FOR THE MANY HATS OF RALPH ARNOLD: ART, IDENTITY & POLITICS AND ECHOES: REFRAMING COLLAGE APPEARED IN:

Newcity, Art in America, Hyperallergic, Chicago Reader, Chicago Tribune, Windy City Times, Time Out - Chicago, Chicago Magazine, Vocalo, Chicago Sun-Times, The Glass Magazine

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STATELESS: VIEWS OF GLOBAL MIGRATION

JANUARY 24 – MARCH 31, 2019

Through the individual lenses of eight contemporary artists, this exhibition laid bare the contradictions inherent to the global refugee crisis, finding beauty and strength in the face of collective trauma. These powerful works of art bear witness, contemplate memory, and explore one's connectivity to a place, even when one can no longer return.

This exhibition received funding from the Art Dealers Association of America.

ARTISTS:

Bissane Al Charif	Fidencio Fifiold-Perez
Leila Alaoui	Tomas van Houtryve
Shimon Attie	Omar Imam
Daniel Castro Garcia	Hiwa K

PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

January 25, 2019—Symposium. This half-day event featured exhibiting artists, activists, writers, and scholars engaged in issues surrounding refugee rights, global migration,

and resettlement practices. Examining these issues within both Chicago and the global context, this series of panels grappled with issues at the forefront of the exhibition.

This symposium was co-sponsored by Heartland Alliance and the Transatlantic Refugee Resettlement Network.

February 8, 2019—Teen Summit. Chicago teens came to the MoCP to reflect, engage, share, and create, in this multidisciplinary creative workshop exploring issues relating to the exhibition. This program was co-sponsored by 826CHI. This also included an interactive art workshop at Senn High School with working artist Hani Mustafa and local teens that was exhibited at the Teen Summit.

February 15, 2019—Photos at Noon: Global Migration. This public print viewing presented art relating to themes in the current exhibition and included works by Gohar Dashti, Fazal Sheikh, Marcela Taboada, David Taylor, and Dorothea Lange, among others.

March 6, 2019—Film Screening: A Sharp Light That Shines.

A Sharp Light That Shines featured a selection of short narrative and experimental documentary films from filmmakers exploring global migration from their varied backgrounds and perspectives. These films focused on

patterns of human movement around the globe as a current event, a lived history, an inherited and shared memory, and a contemporary experience.

March 12, 2019—Curatorial Tour. Exhibition curator and MoCP executive director Natasha Egan led a special tour of the exhibition.

March 21, 2019—Big Read Kick-Off Event: Views of Global Migration: Haiti. Mario LaMothe presented a performance at the MoCP in response to the experiences of Haitian immigrants, in conjunction with the exhibition *Stateless: Views of Global Migration* and the NEA Big Read initiative at Columbia.

PRESS FOR STATELESS: VIEWS OF GLOBAL MIGRATION APPEARED IN:

Chicago Reader, Vocolo, WTTW, Newcity, Chicago Tribune, Chicago Magazine



Shimon Attie
Still from *The Crossing*, 2017

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, 1963: DAWOUD BEY/ BLACK STAR

APRIL 11 — JULY 7, 2019

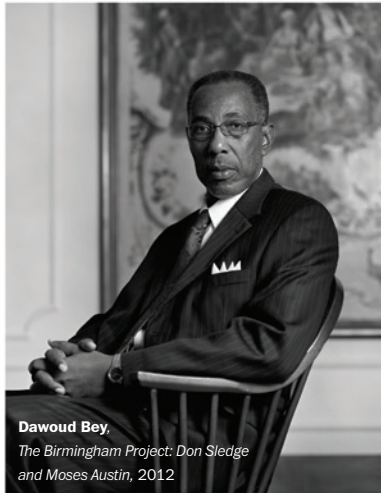
Birmingham, Alabama, 1963: Dawoud Bey/Black Star responded to the September 15, 1963 bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama—an event that resulted in six deaths of black children by white supremacists. The exhibition paired Dawoud Bey's *The Birmingham Project* (2012) with a selection of prints from the Black Star archive of photojournalism, providing a historical context for the bombing, and revealing the political and social turmoil that placed the Civil Rights Movement in the media spotlight during the months leading up to the explosion.

CHICAGO STORIES: CARLOS JAVIER ORTIZ AND DAVID SCHALLIOL

In response to *Birmingham, Alabama, 1963: Dawoud Bey/Black Star*, this exhibition showcased photographs and films by Carlos Javier Ortiz and David Schalliol pulled from the museum's permanent collection and the Midwest Photographers Project (MPP). Both artists separately investigated forms of systemic racism in Chicago and beyond through the lens of individual stories.

PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

April 11, 2019—Conversation: Dawoud Bey and Gaëlle Morel. Dawoud Bey engaged in a conversation with Gaëlle Morel, Exhibitions Curator at the Ryerson Image Centre, about the links between his Birmingham projects and photojournalistic images documenting the civil rights movement of the 1960s. This conversation was moderated by MoCP chief curator and deputy director Karen Irvine and was part of Columbia College Chicago's Collective Impact series, an initiative to explore community engagement and social justice in art making.



Dawoud Bey,
*The Birmingham Project: Don Sledge
and Moses Austin, 2012*



Carlos Javier Ortiz
Girls Dancing, Englewood, Chicago, 2008



David Schalliol
Isolated Building Study 24, 2008

May 2, 2019—Chicago Stories: Unpacking Segregation in Chicago, Then and Now. Panelists included Natalie Moore, WBEZ South Side reporter, exhibiting artists Carlos Javier Ortiz and David Schalliol; artist Tonika Johnson, whose project *Folded Map* encourages interactive exploration of Chicago's racial and geographic divisions; Lucy Baird, archivist and historian at Baird & Warner, one of Chicago's largest real estate companies whose former president long advocated for fair housing; and Deborah Payne, a community activist in Englewood and the protagonist in David Schalliol's film, *The Area*. The panel was moderated by Kristin Taylor, curator of academic programs and collections.

May 10, 2019—Tonika Johnson: Folded Map. In conjunction with Columbia College Chicago's Manifest Urban Arts Festival, the MoCP hosted Columbia alumna Tonika Johnson '03 for a one-day presentation of *Folded Map*, a project that explores the ongoing impact of Chicago segregation.

June 7, 2019—Teen Night: CPS Lives. The MoCP collaborated with nonprofit CPS Lives to provide an interactive art workshop in conjunction with the exhibition. Local artists shared their work taken of students in Chicago Public Schools and teens created reflective postcards using photocollage and writing prompts to reflect on the exhibition.

June 7, 2019 and June 21, 2019—Photos at Noon. In these sessions, Kristin Taylor, the MoCP's curator of academic programs and collections led a mini-course on select themes and works pulled from the archive. Topics included Approaches to Documentary and Photographing Chicago.

PRESS FOR BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, 1963: DAWOUD BEY/BLACK STAR AND CHICAGO STORIES: CARLOS JAVIER ORTIZ AND DAVID SCHALLIOL APPEARED IN:

Newcity, WTTW, The Guardian, Chicago Sun-Times



LECTURES IN PHOTOGRAPHY

Every semester, the MoCP and the Photography Department at Columbia College Chicago join together to present Lectures in Photography. A selection of prominent artists, curators, and art historians from around the world are invited to present public lectures for Columbia students and staff and the larger Chicago and Midwest arts communities. The mission of this series is to shape and enliven the discourse around photography through our programming. The following lecturers were featured during the 2018–2019 season.



LECTURERS

1 Lucas Foglia, Artist
September 25, 2018

2 Paul Mpagi Sepuya, Artist
November 7, 2018

3 Barbara Kasten, Artist
November 29, 2018

4 Lalla Essaydi, Artist
February 27, 2019

5 Shimon Attie, Artist
February 6, 2019

6 Rebecca Senf, Chief Curator,
Center for Creative Photography; Norton
Family Curator, Phoenix Museum of Art
May 8, 2019

PERMANENT COLLECTION

The MoCP continues to build its strong collection, which currently houses 15,644 objects by 1524 artists. As part of Columbia College Chicago, the museum takes particular pride in the accessibility of our comprehensive collection and opens its archives to students, educators, and the public so that they may have the opportunity to research original objects.

FY 2019 ACQUISITIONS

Ansel Adams
 Ralph Arnold
 Alun Be
 Aimée Beaubien
 Dawoud Bey
 Jojakim Cortis
 and Adrian Sonderegger
 Darryl Cowherd
 Paul D'Amato
 Bruce Davidson
 Antone Dolezol
 Camilo Echavarria
 Chairi Endo
 Sebrina Fassbender
 Judy Fiskin
 Lucas Foglia

Krista Franklin
 Stuart Franklin
 Beate Geissler and Oliver Sann
 Matthew Genitempo
 Ben Gest
 Burt Glinn
 Kathryn Harrison
 Naoya Hatakeyama
 Milton J. Hinton
 Omar Iman
 Colleen Keihm
 Lacey Lennon
 Joanne Leonard
 Sze Tsung Leong
 Jay David McCafferty
 Paula McCartney

Cecil McDonald, Jr.
 Susan Meiselas
 Mohau Modisakeng
 Ayanah Moor
 Aida Muluneh
 Jackie Nickerson
 Patrick D. Pagnano
 Alexis Peskine
 Melissa Ann Pinney
 Birthe Piontek
 Mike Osborne
 Leland Rice
 Whitten Sabbatini
 Sandro Miller
 David Schalliol
 Ferdinando Scianna

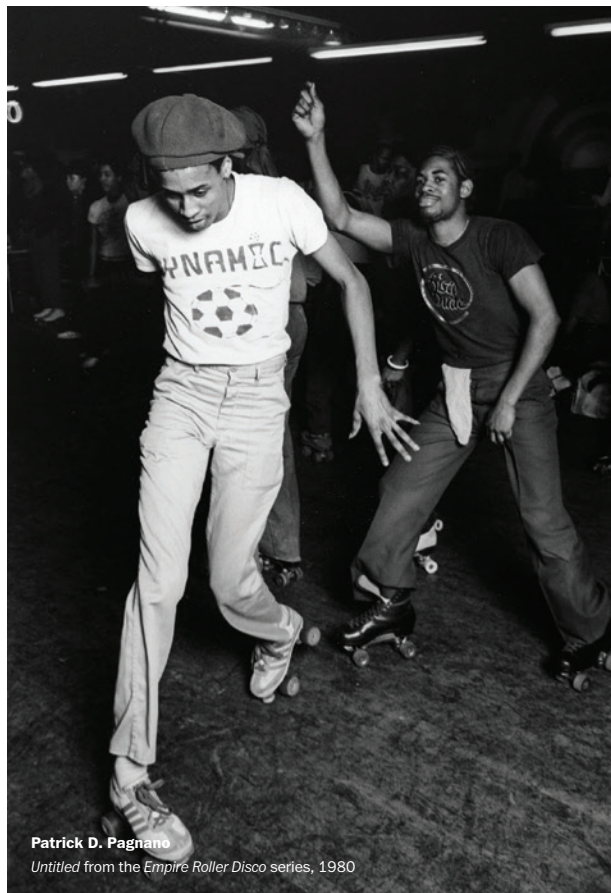
Dayanita Singh
 Aaron Siskind
 Chris Steele-Perkins
 Larry Sultan
 Edmund Teske
 Reed Thomas
 George Tice
 Chris Verene
 Julie Weber
 Kurt Weston
 Shoshannah White
 Jeffrey Wolin
 Yao Lu
 Max Yavno



Cortis and Sonderegger
Making of Tiananmen (by Stuart Franklin, 1989), 2013



Cecil McDonald, Jr.
Frances Before Dinner, 2006



Patrick D. Pagnano
Untitled from the Empire Roller Disco series, 1980

MIDWEST PHOTOGRAPHERS PROJECT

Now in its 37th year, the Midwest Photographers Project is a revolving collection of portfolios by 63 established and emerging photographers from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Each portfolio, loaned to the MoCP for a three-year period, represents a body of work from a current or ongoing project. MPP is an unparalleled and extensive resource on contemporary photography, with new portfolios introduced on a rolling basis.

FY 2019 MIDWEST PHOTOGRAPHERS PROJECT ADDITIONS

Jennifer Colten
Adrian Galli
Colleen Keihm



Jennifer Colten

Mound [7056] from the Significant & Insignificant Mounds series, 2016



Adrian Galli

Scalloped Black and White, 2015



Colleen Keihm

*Primary Structure #3 from the
Primary Structures series, 2018*

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Senn High School students and teaching artist Hani Mustafa at the MoCP Teen Summit

This past year, the MoCP has introduced a broad scope of community engagement programs, especially focused on serving teens in the community, organized in conjunction with our thought-provoking exhibitions.

Community engagement highlights this past year include programs presented during the exhibition *Stateless: Views of Global Migration*. Notably, the MoCP organized its first Teen Summit with community partners 826CHI, a non-profit creative writing, tutoring, and publishing center dedicated to amplifying the voices of Chicago youth. The MoCP and 826CHI organized a poetry response workshop based on photographs in the exhibition by Daniel Castro Garcia, as well as a zine-making station for teens to process their responses to the exhibit through writing.

The Teen Summit also featured an art share, which was generated through a partnership with Senn High School students and teaching artist Hani Mustafa, who presented an ongoing extracurricular program to students, many of whom were themselves refugees. During their sessions prior to the summit, the students were introduced to work from the exhibition, particularly the project by Omar Imam, whose work included photographing recreations of the dreams of Syrian refugees in Lebanon. The students then used photography to create their own approach to the project, sharing their artworks to their peers during the summit.

Other community events of note include a symposium during *Stateless* featuring artists, activists, writers, and scholars who discussed refugee rights, global migration, and resettlement practices. Grappling with issues at the forefront of the exhibition, the symposium was created in partnership with Heartland Alliance and the Transatlantic Refugee Resettlement Network.

Also of note during the 2018–2019 season was an ongoing partnership with Marwen's Art at Work summer internship program. Teen interns spent six weeks immersed in professional development at the museum, where they learned how to organize, plan, and promote their own Teen Night.

These diverse events for both teens and members of the community at large will only continue to expand and grown in future years. As a museum, we are excited to serve our community through these educational, interactive programs.



A child learning how to create a sun print after viewing the *Lucas Foglia: Human Nature* exhibition



Adult and children participating in scavenger hunt



Children learning how to make buttons with an MoCP graduate student

EDUCATION



Nathaniel Mary Quinn talks to CPS students during his MoCP educational residency

During the 2018–2019 season, the MoCP served an impressive 5,942 students from around the region for guided tours and print viewings. In addition to engaging with Columbia College Chicago students, the MoCP also served 67 K-12 schools from the Chicago metropolitan area and an additional 25 colleges and universities from the region.

The MoCP has worked especially hard this year to develop learning programs to best serve Chicago Public Schools (CPS) students. This year, the museum created six comprehensive digital and printed education guides outlining the themes of the exhibitions, classroom activities, and questions for looking. These guides were designed to align with Illinois Learning Standards. In addition, the MoCP hosted a week-long educational residency with *Echoes: Reframing Collage* artist Nathaniel Mary Quinn for students to learn about his career as an artist and how his time growing up in Chicago influenced his path to the arts. Through the MoCP's newly launched bus subsidy program, the museum brought under-served students for 25 field trips to the museum who otherwise would have been unable to come. Other programming has directly served CPS teachers, including a Saturday learning session for a group of CPS History teachers, so that they could better understand Ralph Arnold and incorporate the visual arts into their curriculum.

In addition to serving CPS students, other education programs have provided educational resources for the community at large and adult learners. This year, the MoCP debuted its very first podcast, *Focal Point*,

which engages curators, artists, and thinkers in conversation around works in the museum's collection. Recent episodes have featured Carlos Javier Ortiz, David Schalliol, Lisa Lindvay, and Natalie Krick. The MoCP also launched Photos at Noon, which are educational sessions that cover a range of themes including: Photographing Chicago, Approaches to Documentary, Global Migration, Collage, and Recent Acquisitions. This series of lunchtime public print viewings is targeted at lifelong learners as a mini-course.

Learners of all ages, from elementary to graduate students and beyond, have benefited from the MoCP's rich educational offerings, solidifying the museum's role as a premier teaching institution in Chicago.



Artist Melissa Ann Pinney shares photographs she has taken of students during Teen Night, in partnership with local nonprofit CPS Lives



Waters Elementary School students showing the collages they created in an MoCP-led collage making activity after completing a tour of The Many Hats of Ralph Arnold exhibition

DEVELOPMENT



Karen Irvine, Lalla Essaydi, and Robert Winslow at DARKROOM 2019.



MoCP After Dark



DARKROOM 2019

The MoCP's annual benefit auction and party DARKROOM was held on Thursday, February 28, 2019 at Venue SIX10, bringing in over \$300,000 to support the museum. Funds raised at DARKROOM provided critical support for the museum's exhibitions, collections, and community engagement initiatives in 2019. Highlights of the evening included a VIP hour conversation between MoCP chief curator and deputy director Karen Irvine and Silver Camera Awardee Lalla Essaydi about Essaydi's photographic contributions.

Other high points of the evening included a ceremony honoring artist Lalla Essaydi with the Silver Camera Award, followed by a rousing Raise the Paddle, that raised over \$20,000 to support MoCP education initiatives, including expanded teen programs and a bus subsidy program aimed at bringing more Chicago Public School students to the museum from under-served communities.

Co-chaired by Ted Keim and Marisa Murillo, with honorary co-chairs Bill and Vicki Hood, DARKROOM 2019 hosted over 250 guests, who enjoyed an elegant evening celebration of photography while supporting the Museum of Contemporary Photography, the only museum of its kind in the region.



FIRST LOOK: FINE PRINT PARTY

On June 13, 2019, the MoCP's Museum Council hosted their most successful FIRST LOOK: Fine Print Party to date. Held at Chez, an elegant event space in River North, the 150 guests enjoyed a curated selection of the MoCP's most distinctive Fine Prints, as well as cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and music.

New prints by acclaimed artists Daniel Castro-Garcia, Krista Franklin, Natalie Krick, and Diana Matar were released at the event and added to the MoCP Fine Print Program this year. In total, the event brought in nearly \$20,000 to benefit the museum's exhibitions, public programs, and community engagement.

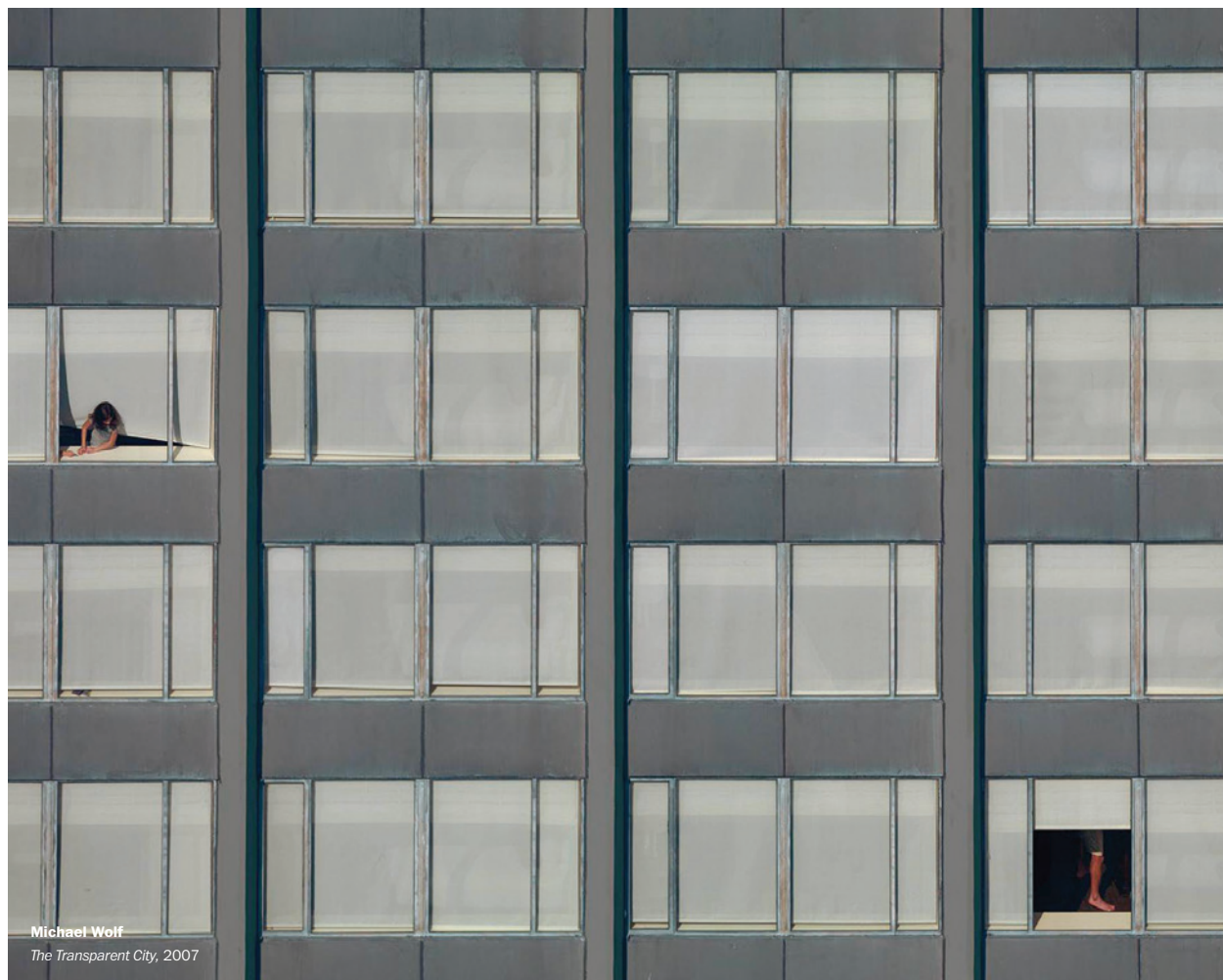
Printed especially for the Museum of Contemporary Photography by some of the most innovative photographers working today, the sale of editioned fine prints directly supports artistic and educational programs at the MoCP. Each image is printed on archival-quality paper and is offered in an edition of 30, numbered and signed by the artist.



MoCP AFTER DARK

Over 125 guests joined us on November 16, 2018 for MoCP After Dark. Guests danced the night away to a DJ set by Kwest_on, Chicago's nightlife innovator, and witnessed a performance by acclaimed multidisciplinary artist avery r. young. Hosted by the Museum Council and Maya-Camille Broussard, MoCP After Dark was an energizing evening of art, music, and performance.

IN MEMORIAM: MICHAEL WOLF



Michael Wolf
The Transparent City, 2007



Michael Wolf at the MoCP, in his installation created for
Made in China, 2006

The MoCP mourns the loss of photographer Michael Wolf, who passed away this year. The museum was honored to first show his work in the group show *Made in China* in 2006, where he installed over 5,000 toys made in China in the MoCP's north gallery. The MoCP later commissioned *The Transparent City*, with the support of U.S. Equities, a project exploring the layers of architecture in Chicago's landscape in 2007, which culminated in a sold-out book co-published by Aperture in 2008. His photographs of the urban environment, both in the US and in Hong Kong where he lived and worked, occupy a vital space within the MoCP permanent collection. He will be greatly missed.



SPOTLIGHT ON: THE SNIDER PRIZE

Now in its seventh year, the Snider Prize is a purchase award given to emerging artists in their final year of graduate study. The winner receives \$2,000, and two honorable mentions each receive \$500 towards the purchase of work to be added to the MoCP's permanent collection. Sponsored by Lawrence K. and Maxine Snider, the Snider Prize forms a part of the museum's ongoing commitment to support new talent in the field of contemporary photography.

The 2019 Snider Prize was awarded to **Stephen Foster**. Stephen Foster is an interdisciplinary artist who works with film, photography, poetry, sculpture, performance, and music. His ongoing series, *8*, considers racial discrimination within the criminal justice systems in the United States and the ways that prisons exist as one of many spaces where black lives are dehumanized and erased for others to gain profit and power. Additionally, his short films slow down moments and gestures within urban communities into poetic dream spaces that deconstruct larger racial stereotypes.

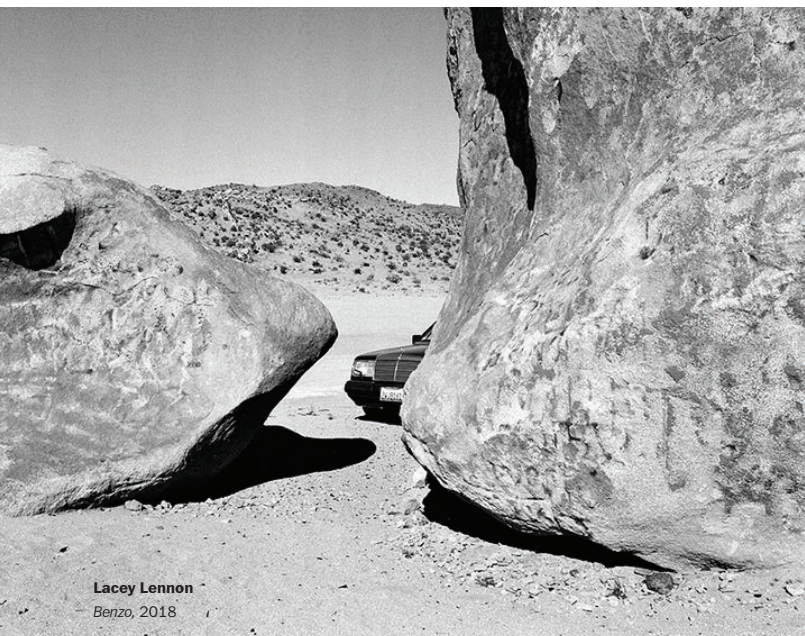
Artists **Jen Everett** and **Peter Cochrane** both received honorable mentions.

Previous winners include: Kathryn Harrison, Nakeya Brown, Adam Golfer, Trent Davis Bailey, Hyounsang Yoo, and Janna Ireland.





Janna Ireland
The Spotless Mirror, 2012



Lacey Lennon
Benzo, 2018



Kathryn Harrison
Untitled, Sarasota, Florida, from the Blue-Stained Walls series

SONIA BLOCH MEMORIAL FUND FOR EMERGING ARTISTS

We are honored to share that the MoCP has received a generous gift from Sonia Bloch's family to endow the Sonia Bloch Memorial Fund for Emerging Artists. Sonia Bloch was a founder of the museum and sadly passed away last year. Sonia was deeply committed to sharing her love of photography and the photographs she and her husband Ted donated to the collection are often utilized in print viewings, featured in exhibitions, and loaned to other institutions. The MoCP would not be the institution it is today without Sonia's dedication and her influential spirit. This gift will allow the MoCP to acquire works from emerging photographers and enhance our collection. We are excited and honored to be part of Sonia's legacy in this way, and are welcoming future contributions to grow this fund.



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*artwork donated to the collection

+ deceased

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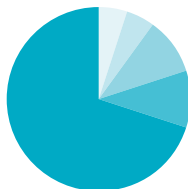
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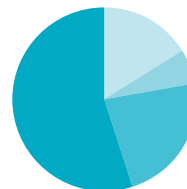
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Columbia College Chicago
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Net Assets
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眾鳥高飛去
獨去尋芳客
祇有敬亭山

外路于辰年作



Yao Lu

Wine Boat on Pine Creek, from the New Landscape VI series, 2012

29 | Annual Report 2019

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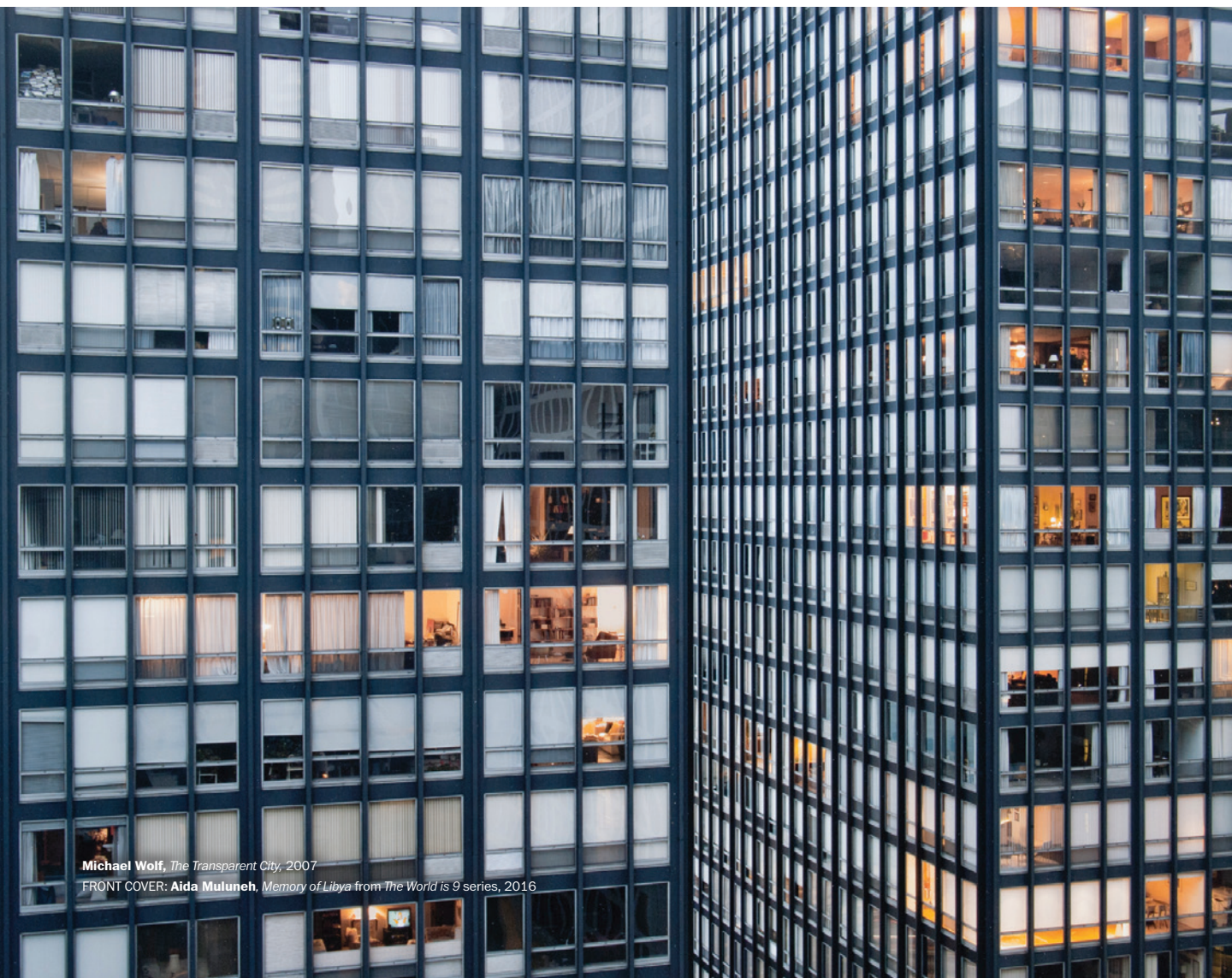
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Michael Wolf, *The Transparent City*, 2007

FRONT COVER: **Aida Muluneh**, *Memory of Libya* from *The World is 9* series, 2016