



INSPIRING IMAGES

THE MUSEUM PROJECT

This catalogue coincides with *Inspiring Images: The Museum Project*, an exhibition organized by the Kingsborough Art Museum at Kingsborough Community College, CUNY. The exhibition was on view from November 7—December 19, 2018.

Kingsborough Art Museum

The City University of New York

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www.kccartmuseum.org

Catalogue design: Brian E. Hack

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INSPIRING IMAGES: THE MUSEUM PROJECT

Celebrating a Generous Gift to Kingsborough Community College





ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Inspiring Images: The Museum Project celebrates the recent gift of over seventy photographs from The Museum Project, a California-based artists' collective founded in 2012 by photographer Robert von Sternberg. Assisted by Darryl Curran, Sternberg assembled a group of artists who shared his enthusiasm for promoting increased acquisition of photographs in museum collections. As Von Sternberg has noted, the project began as a gesture of thanks to arts and academic institutions:

In 2012, I felt compelled to express my appreciation to the Museums and Universities that had long supported me in my career as an Artist and University Art Professor. My idea was, in gratitude, to donate works of art to institutions that would welcome these additions to their permanent collections. A group of like-minded artists, also willing to make donations, was mobilized, and The Museum Project was born (Robert von Sternberg, Museum Project statement, 2015).

The Museum Project was a resounding success, far exceeding original expecta-

tions. Since its inception, the group has donated some 5,000 photographs to over 170 museums, universities, and other arts institutions around the world, including: Brown University (Providence, RI); Los Angeles County Museum of Art (Los Angeles, CA); Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art (Kansas City, MO); Princeton University Art Museum (Princeton, NJ); Syracuse University Art Galleries (Syracuse, NY); and Mount Holyoke College Art Museum (South Hadley, MA). Kingsborough Community College is proud to now be included as a beneficiary of The Museum Project's generosity.

Robert von Sternberg reached out to the Kingsborough Art Museum (KAM) in 2017, offering a wide selection of photographs from which to choose. Initially conceived as part of a permanent teaching collection at KAM, the images were chosen for their aesthetic vision and technical artistry—in hopes of using them for classroom instruction. Over the ensuing months, however, it became clear that the photographs should be enjoyed by a much larger audience, beginning with the current exhibi-

Left: Robert von Sternberg, *Dublin, Ireland*. Digital print, 1968 (2017). Museum Project Collection, KCC.

tion; future plans under discussion include installing many of these photographs throughout the Kingsborough Community College campus.

While the collection may seem eclectic—from a haunting image of a deserted carwash to an insightful portrait of a young Michael Jackson—it encompasses the development of art and commercial photography in California over the past half century. From the time-tested to the experimental, The Museum Project photographers reflect the unique artistic sensibilities of the Golden State.

All have enjoyed long and well-respected careers, each with numerous solo and group shows to their credit. Two of the photographers, Darryl Curran and Michael Stone, were included in the pivotal exhibition *Photography into Sculpture* (Museum of Modern Art, 1970), curated by Peter Bunnell, then MoMA's Curator of Photography. Others in the collective have also sought unique processes, from Sheila Pinkel's images of camera lenses made with a flatbed scanner, to Robert Fichter's jagged edged landscape photographs. Even the most traditional works in the collection, such as Robert von Sternberg's

images of London and Dublin in the 1960s, or Bonnie Schiffman's portraits of celebrities for the magazines *Entertainment Weekly* and *Rolling Stone*, are captivating in both approach and execution.

We invite you to explore and enjoy this selection of works from the Museum Project collection, a most generous and deeply appreciated gift to Kingsborough Community College.

Brian E. Hack, Ph.D.
Director
Kingsborough Art Museum

Right: Kenda North, *Red Shoes*, from the *Urban Pools* series. Ultrachrome pigment print, 2009 (2017). Museum Project Collection, KCC.

Centerfold: Barry Andersen, *Grindavik, Iceland 1*. Digital Print, 2016 (2018). Museum Project Collection, KCC.







Exhibition Checklist

Barry Andersen (b. 1945)

Alabama 18-6

Digital Print

1987 (2018)

Grindavik, Iceland 1

Digital Print

2016 (2018)

Sheep and Standing Stone,

Avebury, England

Digital Print

1995 (2018)

Darryl Curran (b. 1935)

All About Doris

Limited Edition Portfolio of 12

Scanograms with 8 accompanying poems.

2001

5 Squash Blossoms

Archival Pigment Print

1995

Carotid Scan

Archival Pigment Print

1995

Hollywood Cloud (Muse)

Cyanotype

1979

Forecast

Cyanotype

1980

Robert Fichter (b. 1939)

Orange

Digital Print

2011 (2017)

Bend in the Road

Digital Print

2013 (2017)

Suda House (b. 1951)

Luna, from the series *Aqueous Myths*
Digital Print
1984 (2016)

Juno Lucia, from the series *Aqueous Myths*
Digital Print
1985 (2017)

Kenda North (b. 1951)

Red Shoes, from the series *Urban Pools*
Ultrachrome Pigment Print
2009 (2017)

Descent, from the series *Submerged*
Ultrachrome Pigment Print
2012 (2017)

Desire, from the series *Submerged*
Ultrachrome Pigment Print
2012 (2017)
No. 3 (Orange Berries), from the series
Flora Aquatilis
Ultrachrome Pigment Print
2015 (2017)

Sheila Pinkel (b. 1941)

Lens Scans: Lerebours Deguerrean Camera, 1848
Digital Print
2011-2015

Lens Scans: Imagon Rodenstock, 16", f-5.8
Digital Print
2011-2015

X-Ray 6, Light Bulb
Inkjet print of xeroradiograph
c. 1977-1983 (2016)

X-Ray 10, Fish
Inkjet print of xeroradiograph
c. 1977-1983 (2016)

Bonnie Schiffman (b. 1950)

Muhammad Ali, Los Angeles, California
Digital Pigment Print
1982 (2018)

Dennis Hopper
Digital Pigment Print
1987 (2017)
Michael Jackson
Digital Pigment Print
1983 (2017)

Andy Warhol
Digital Pigment Print
1976 (2017)

Robert von Sternberg (b. 1939)

Dublin, Ireland
Digital Print
1968 (2017)

*Rockview Trailer Park, Morro Bay,
California*
Archival Pigment Print
2013 (2017)

Car Wash, Tucson, Arizona
Archival Pigment Print
2013 (2017)

*Pomona Fairgrounds, Pomona,
California*
Digital Print
1971 (2017)

*Norris Geyser Basin, Yellowstone
National Park*
Archival Pigment Print
2006 (2017)

Columbia Icefield, Alberta, Canada
Archival Pigment Print
2009 (2017)

Twins, Pomona, California
Digital Print
1972

London, England
Digital Print
1967 (2017)

Prague, Czechoslovakia
Digital Print
1967 (2017)

July 4th Parade, Pacific Palisades
Digital Print
1973 (2017)

Michael Stone (b. 1945)

No Way Out
Archival Digital Print
2010

My Secret Door
Archival Digital Print
2013

Whitehouse Products
Archival Digital Print
2015

Melanie Walker (b. 1949)

Mis-Alliance, from the *Mis-Nomer Pageant* series
Archival Digital Print
1990 (2017)

Mis-Choice, from the *Mis-Nomer Pageant* series
Archival Digital Print
1990 (2017)

Mis Tree/Mystery, from the *Mis-Nomer Pageant* series
Archival Digital Print of a gelatin silver-print
1991 (2017)

Todd Walker (1917-1998)

Profound Hogwash
Photolithograph
1985

Split Rock
Photolithograph
1981

Nancy Webber (b. 1937)

A Bathing Place by Georges Seurat / David Krueger, Student, Rancho Santiago College
Archival Pigment Print
1984 (2017)

Head of Angel (detail), Virgin of the Rocks
by Leonardo
da Vinci / Nancy Maurer, Student
Archival Pigment Print
1984 (2017)

Head of an Old Man by Paul Cézanne /
Robert Arneson
Archival Pigment Print
1984 (2017)

Opposite: Bonnie Schiffman,
Dennis Hopper. Digital Pigment
Print, 1987 (2017). Museum
Project Collection, KCC.

Front cover: Bonnie Schiffman,
Muhammad Ali. Digital pigment
print, 1982 (2018). Museum
Project Collection, KCC.

Back cover: Barry Andersen,
Sheep and Standing Stone,
Avebury, England. Digital Print,
1995 (2018). Museum
Project Collection, KCC.



