



*Contemporary Images
in Print since 1915*

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Blurred Vision

AT THE PRINT CENTER January 25 – March 9, 2002

OPENING RECEPTION

Friday, January 25, 2002 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. at The Print Center

PHILADELPHIA, - Blurred Vision explores the tendencies of contemporary artists to deny the photographic tradition of clarity and precision. In the age of the point and shoot camera and the dominance of all-focus photography this exhibition presents nine artists who have made conscious and aesthetic choices to subvert the viewer's expectation of the photograph, and the relationship between the camera vision and human perception.

A primary intention to blur an image-whole or parts of it-is to encourage a certain jolting of perception. Out of focus imagery leaves the viewer with a nagging sense that something is being eluded from his/her grasp - something that is obscured and indecipherable. Similarly, an out of focus image creates a certain confusion about what is viewed and who is viewing. Ultimately, the blurred image presents the moment inhabited by the gap between an object's existence and our ability to capture it on paper.

This exhibition explores how nine artists use the out of focus technique to alter the viewer's perception. Motion, space and chance characterize the photographs by Brian Moss, Sharon Harper, John Murphy and Kocot and Hatton. Their work captures the experience of moving through space and time, and ultimately questions whether space or time can be fixed in a photograph. Intrigued by the wild American west, Christopher Harris and Justyna Badach images obscure the unwanted realities of the developed land and present only the magic of the west. Kelly Roberts takes out of focus photographs of miniature sculpture she has created to encourage the viewer to free associate. Similarly, Linda Soberman employs visual ambiguity allowing the viewer to interpret his/her own narrative into the work. Matt Hollerbush draws the viewer's attention to preselected areas of the image by making everything else around it illegible.

Located at 1614 Latimer Street, in the heart of Center City Philadelphia, The Print Center supports printmaking and photography as vital contemporary arts. The Print Center presents a variety of programs for the public including 11 exhibitions annually; the longest running annual international competition for prints and photographs in the country; an extensive series of continuing education programs for art professionals and amateurs; a gallery store; and special events.

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