



CONTEMPORARY IMAGES IN PRINT SINCE 1915

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The Print Center Receives Grant from Philadelphia Exhibitions Initiative \$18,397 Towards Camera Obscura Project, *TAKEN WITH TIME*

PHILADELPHIA: The Philadelphia Exhibitions Initiative (PEI), funded by The Pew Charitable Trusts and administered by The University of the Arts, announced the list of the 2004 awardees on May 1. Only five Philadelphia institutions were selected including The Print Center who will receive an \$18,397 planning grant for an exhibition and outreach project titled ***TAKEN WITH TIME***.

TAKEN WITH TIME will present newly commissioned work created with a camera obscura by internationally known artists **Ann Hamilton** (Columbus, OH), **Vera Lutter** (New York, NY) and **Abelardo Morell** (Boston, MA). Each camera obscura will be installed in a choice location in Philadelphia selected by the invited artists. The new work will be exhibited at The Print Center and documented in an accompanying catalog. Related outreach programming will illuminate the project and the magic of the camera obscura to targeted audiences. The planning grant offers the opportunity to invite each artist to spend two weeks in Philadelphia. At that time they will conduct research and explore the city to determine the site for their camera obscura. Not only will all their expenses be covered but the grant also includes an honorarium for the artists' time and involvement in the project. The second part of the planning grant will support an art education coordinator to make contact with the community of each selected site and to begin formulating outreach programs based around the construction and use of each camera.

Hamilton, Lutter and Morell each take different and innovative approaches to reviving the camera obscura—the oldest photographic device. In a culture entrenched in the latest technological advancements, these artists use the camera obscura to capture traces of movement and visual imprints of time. Morell turns entire rooms into cameras, Lutter prefers large cavernous spaces like shipping containers while Hamilton places the camera in her mouth and moves her lips to act as the camera's shutter.

The exhibition is currently scheduled for **Fall 2006** and will be curated by **Jacqueline van Rhyn**, Curator of Prints and Photographs at The Print Center. Ms. van Rhyn co-curated The Print Center's recently funded PEI exhibition, **IMPRINT**, a public art project, which placed the work of six artists on billboards, coffee cups and newspapers throughout the city.

The Print Center supports printmaking and photography as vital contemporary arts and encourages the appreciation of the printed image in all its forms. The Print Center presents a variety of programs for the public including 11 exhibitions annually; The Print Center Gallery Store, offering the largest and most diverse selection of contemporary prints in Philadelphia; the longest running annual international competition for prints and photographs in the country; an extensive series of continuing education programs; and special events.

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