



CONTEMPORARY IMAGES IN PRINT SINCE 1915

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BLACK PULSE 2000-2007: DOUG + MIKE STARN
September 14 – November 21, 2007

Friday, September 14: Opening Reception 5:30-7:30pm, Private Dinner w/ the Artists 8:00pm

PHILADELPHIA: The Print Center announces *Black Pulse: 2000-2007* by internationally recognized artists

Doug + Mike Starn. The exhibition will feature the *Black Pulse* series which explores the multiple layers of meaning inherent in the dualities of light and darkness, mortality and decay as well as the impermanence of beauty, through the investigation and deconstruction of foliate imagery.

Twins Doug + Mike Starn work collaboratively making constructions which blur the lines between photography, painting and sculpture, with an emphasis on the physicality of the photographic print. Their underlying concept is cross-disciplinary spanning the fields of art, science and philosophy, and investigates the inherent tensions which arise from combining photography and sculpture, art and science, reality and metaphor, nature and technology. The Starns' images resonate with the poetic tension which exists in the space between presence and absence, darkness and enlightenment. *Black Pulse: 2000 - 2007* offers a complete presentation of the scope of this series, from the initial photographs of flatly presented leaves on small sheets of gampi paper, through wall-scaled leaf imagery modeled three-dimensionally, to the most recent work - a digital projection adding movement and color modulation to the depictions. This is the first solo exhibition of the Starns' work in Philadelphia.

The Starns have established an international presence in museums and galleries since first receiving critical attention for their unconventional approach to the photograph as art object in 1985 when they had just completed art school. Their works, which are often torn, taped, torqued and intentionally distressed, have been included in numerous exhibitions domestically and abroad. Their pieces have been acquired by more than 30 public permanent collections including the Museum of Modern Art (NYC), the Metropolitan Museum of Art (NYC), the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum (NYC), the Whitney Museum of American Art (NYC), the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (CA), the Corcoran Gallery of Art (Washington, D.C.), the Jewish Museum (NYC) and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (CA). They have received two grants from the National Endowment for the Arts (1987,1995) and The International Center for Photography's Infinity Award for Fine Art Photography (1992).

Doug + Mike Starns' *Black Pulse: 2000 - 2007* will be on view at The Print Center from September 14 – November 21, 2007. The opening reception is Friday, September 14 from 5:30-7:30pm followed by a private dinner with the artists at 8:00pm.

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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