



CONTEMPORARY IMAGES IN PRINT SINCE 1915

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***Foreclosed: Alejandra Laviada, Gillian Pears, Hirsch Perlman,
Tommy Reynolds, Melanie Schiff & Ryan Widger***
September 10 – November 26, 2008

Wednesday, September 10

Gallery Talk by John Caperton, Curator: 5:00pm; Opening Reception: 5:30-7:30pm

Friday, October 17, 5:00pm

Gallery Talk by Gillian Pears, Tommy Reynolds & Ryan Widger

PHILADELPHIA: The Print Center presents ***Foreclosed***, a group exhibition bringing together the work of six photographers, who construct and then document sculptural installations. The works reflect the tedium, repetition and endless quest for purpose faced by the artist in the studio. Together the works also share a feeling of being foreclosed or blocked, as well as a sense of anxiety about the future and of turning inward rather than out. In a sense these works could be seen as the opposite of street photography, giving a sense of being barricaded away and in need of fresh air.

In this exhibition we see discarded buckets and chairs arranged in patterns that belie their former function (**Alejandra Laviada**); plastic sheeting hanging in a room conveying the potential of being soiled (**Gillian Pears**); a bundled mattress suggesting an unsettled life (**Ryan Widger**); a room crammed with objects reflecting an anxious need to hoard any and everything (**Tommy Reynolds**); a prism made from a CD case suggesting a search for beauty in something banal (**Melanie Schiff**); and finally, a plastic bag and a flashlight creating something akin to a failed mushroom cloud (**Hirsch Perlman**).

Alejandra Laviada, based in Mexico City, was included in the 2008 New York Photography Festival. Gillian Pears, based in Philadelphia, will have a solo exhibition at Kelly Weber Gallery, Philadelphia in November. Hirsch Perlman, based in Los Angeles, has exhibited internationally including recent solo exhibitions at Robert Miller Gallery, New York, and Gallery Min Min, Tokyo. Tommy Reynolds, based in Philadelphia, was recently included in a group exhibition at the Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI. Melanie Schiff, based in Chicago, IL, was included in the 2008 *Whitney Biennial*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York and *Sympathy for the Devil: Art and Rock and Roll Since 1967*, Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami, FL. Ryan Widger, based in Philadelphia, recently had a solo exhibition at Kelly Weber Gallery, Philadelphia.

Foreclosed will be on view at The Print Center from September 10 to November 26, 2008. On Wednesday, September 10 there will be gallery talk by John Caperton, Curator of Prints and Photographs, The Print Center at 5:00pm followed by the opening reception from 5:30-7:30pm. In conjunction with **Center City District Gallery Night**, **Gillian Pears, Tommy Reynolds** and **Ryan Widger** will give a gallery talk on their work on Friday, October 17 at 5:00pm. Free and open to the public.

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 exhibitions; The Print Center Gallery Store, which offers the largest and most diverse selection of contemporary prints in Philadelphia; the longest running annual international competition for prints and photographs in the country; and an extensive series of education programs and special events.

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