



CONTEMPORARY IMAGES IN PRINT SINCE 1915

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The Print Center Receives Grant from Philadelphia Exhibitions Initiative \$150,000 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 2005 awardees in April. The Print Center was one of four Philadelphia institutions selected, including the Fabric Workshop and Museum, Moore College of Art and Design and the Institute of Contemporary Art. The Print Center received \$150,000 for the exhibition ***TAKEN WITH TIME***.

TAKEN WITH TIME brings together for the first time, three contemporary artists of international significance in the field of photography who have each taken different and innovative approach to reviving the camera obscura—the oldest and simplest photographic device. **Ann Hamilton** (Columbus, OH), **Vera Lutter** (New York, NY) and **Abelardo Morell** (Boston, MA) will temporarily install camera obscurae in different Philadelphia locations and will present the final images in an exhibition at The Print Center. 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. A planning grant that was awarded in 2004 by PEI offered the opportunity to invite each artist to spend two weeks in Philadelphia. At that time they conducted research and explored the city to determine the site for their camera obscura. The second part of the planning grant also supported hiring a project manager and 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.

TAKEN WITH TIME will present three different uses of the camera obscura to address how we perceive light, observe space and experience time. The site specificity of each camera obscura's location will be significant in the context of Philadelphia reflecting on its communities, history, architecture and cultural wealth. Morell will turn a gallery at the Philadelphia Museum of Art into a camera, Lutter will place her camera which is the size of a shipping container over looking a rail yard, while Hamilton's portable pinhole camera will sit in the center of various types of gatherings in the city.

The exhibition is currently scheduled for **September 7 - November 11, 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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