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SF Camerawork
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LANDMARK:
Yosemite Through the Lens of Contemporary Landscape Photography
December 7, 2017 – January 27, 2018
Opening Reception: Thursday, December 7, 2017, 6 – 8 PM
Public Programming: Thursday, January 25, 2017 6 – 8 PM

Artists: Binh Danh, Mark Klett & Byron Wolfe, Ted Orland, Millee Tibbs, and Jerry Uelsmann
Curated by Cara Goger, Executive Director, Mariposa County Arts Council

SAN FRANCISCO, December 2017 – SF Camerawork is proud to present Landmark: Yosemite Through the Lens of Contemporary Landscape Photography in celebration of the National Park Service centennial. This traveling exhibition, curated by Cara Goger of the Mariposa County Arts Council, features the work of Binh Danh, Mark Klett & Byron Wolfe, Ted Orland, Millee Tibbs, and Jerry Uelsmann.

Landscape photography is uniquely wedded to the National Parks, and specifically to Yosemite. Many famous photographers have had a storied history with Yosemite--their work not only shares and celebrates the landscape’s grandeur, but also examines our relationship to wilderness and conservation. The contemporary artists selected for this exhibition bring new representation and varied voices to the genre of landscape photography, strengthening the rich relationship between the medium and Yosemite, while also blazing new conceptual and technical ground with their work.
BINH DANH, renowned for his elegant use of antiquated photographic processes, uses the daguerreotype in his ongoing Yosemite project. The resulting jewel-like photographs of Yosemite’s grandiose landscape also allow viewers to see their own mirrored reflection on the image’s surface. This juxtaposition is especially important for Danh, a Vietnamese-American artist, whose work addresses the relationships between immigrants, the American landscape, and identity.

MARK KLETT & BYRON WOLFE’s collaborative panoramic images combine historic photographs by Ansel Adams, Carleton Watkins, Eadweard Muybridge, and Edward Weston. The resulting composite images visually connect various points across time, creating an artistic rendering of the landscape’s continual geological and photographic progression.

TED ORLAND, who in his early career served as assistant to photographer Ansel Adams, celebrates and satirizes visitors’ use and enjoyment of Yosemite through his aesthetically rich and intellectually clever images.

MILLEE TIBBS’ project Mountains + Valleys confronts the myth of the untouched landscape. Tibbs physically manipulates her photographs through a series of geometric folds and then re-photographs the altered images.

JERRY UELOSMANN’s surrealist dreamscapes are composed of multiple negatives layered together in the dark room. These images, created in the early 1990s when Uelsmann participated in Yosemite Museum’s Artist-in-Residency program, fuse the human form with the natural landscape. These imaginative photographs have been instrumental in expanding the definition of landscape photography and inspiring generations of photographers.

This exhibition is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts “Imagine Your Parks” program, the Yosemite/Mariposa County Tourism Bureau, Michael Fry and Claudia Welsh, Carol Johnson, and Michelle Marco.
ARTIST BIOS:

BINH DANH received his MFA from Stanford University in 2004 and currently teaches at Arizona State University. Danh has emerged as an artist of national importance with work that investigates his Vietnamese heritage and incorporates historic photographic printing techniques. His work has been included in important exhibitions at museums across the country, and is part of collections at many major museums.

MARK KLETT has a background working as a geologist and his photographs explore the intersection of cultures, landscapes and time. Klett has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Buhl Foundation, and the Japan/US Friendship Commission. His work has been exhibited and published both nationally and internationally for over 30 years, and his work is held in over 80 museum collections worldwide.

TED ORLAND holds an MA in Interdisciplinary Creative Arts from San Francisco State University and has held full time positions at Stanford University and the University of Oregon. Orland currently resides in Santa Cruz and is represented by the Ansel Adams Gallery.

MILLEE TIBBS is a visual artist residing in Detroit, MI. Her work has been shown throughout the United States and Latin America, and her work is held in the permanent collections of the RISD Museum, the Portland Art Museum, and in the Midwest Project at the Museum of Contemporary Photography (Chicago). Tibbs is currently an assistant professor at Wayne State University.

JERRY UELSMANN received his B.F.A. degree at the Rochester Institute of Technology in 1957 and his M.S. and M.F.A. at Indiana University in 1960. He currently resides in Gainesville, Florida. Uelsmann received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1967 and a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in 1972. Over the past thirty years, his work has been exhibited in more than 100 individual shows in the United States and abroad. His photographs are in the permanent collections of many museums worldwide.

BYRON WOLFE’s photographs connect his interests in time, change, and place. He has received a fellowship from the Guggenheim Foundation and is a recipient of the Santa Fe Prize for Photography. Byron Wolfe is the Program Director for Photography at the Tyler School of Art Center for the Arts at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. His work is widely exhibited and collected.
PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS:

MARIPOSA COUNTRY ARTS COUNCIL, TREETOP GALLERY
The Mariposa County Arts Council has a mission is to promote and support all forms of the cultural arts, for all ages, throughout Mariposa County

MERCED COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL MULTICULTURAL ARTS CENTER
The Merced County Arts Council works to inspire and nurture the arts in Merced County and strive to show the community that art is around us all the time, and can be experienced in anything and everything.

YOSEMITE MUSEUM, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

SF CAMERAWORK:
Founded in 1974, SF Camerawork’s mission is to encourage and support emerging artists to explore new directions and ideas in the photographic arts. Through exhibitions, publications, and educational programs, SF Camerawork strives to create an engaging platform for artistic exploration as well as community involvement and inquiry.