

ON LANDSCAPE PROJECT

On Landscape #1 Panel Discussion chaired by Lucy Soutter with Martin Barnes, Miranda Gavin & Sue Steward

Guest Projects, 1 Andrews Road, London E8 4QL **13 March, 7-9pm**

When talking about landscape a set of preconceived ideas, traditions and conventions come into play. Does the possible cliché derived from the act of taking a photograph of landscape solely add to an endless repetition of images? How does one position oneself in relation to loaded notions of landscape traditions? When dealing with straightforward representations and traditional tropes of landscape, how can these be subverted and challenged? Is the inclusion of nature in urban environments an attempt to recreate a utopian idea of rural landscape? How does this artificial transplantation of nature into an urban environment affect or redefine our experience of it? Is it truly possible to visualize or record the experience of a landscape onto a flat surface? *On Landscape #1* is interested in raising these questions and seeks to instigate discussions and incite debate on representations of landscape. Our four highly esteemed panel members will be responding to the exhibition framework and to the wider discourse surrounding the genre of landscape.

Please note this event will be recorded by Resonance 104.4 FM and broadcast at a later date. *On Landscape #1* is part of Guest Projects 2014 residency programme and is generously supported by Arts Council England, Frame, University of East London and Photomonitor.

Lucy Soutter is an artist, critic and art historian. She teaches in the Department of Critical and Historical Studies at the Royal College of Art and has written about contemporary art and photography for publications including *Afterimage*, *Source*, *Frieze* and *Aperture*. Her essays have appeared in anthologies including *Girls! Girls! Girls! in Contemporary Art* (Intellect, 2011), and *Appropriation* (Whitechapel Gallery and MIT Press, 2009). She is the author of *Why Art Photography?* (Routledge 2013).

Martin Barnes is Senior Curator of Photographs at the Victoria and Albert Museum, (V&A) London which he joined in 1995. Previously, he worked for the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool and studied at the University of Leicester and the Courtauld Institute of Art, London. At the V&A, he is responsible for the national collection of the art of photography. In 2008, he curated the UK touring exhibition *Where Are We? Questions of Landscape*, and has organised numerous V&A exhibitions with related publications, including, *Twilight: Photography in the Magic Hour* (2006); *Shadow Catchers: Camera-less Photography* (2010) and *Figures and Fictions: Contemporary South African Photography* (2011).

Miranda Gavin is Deputy & Online Editor of *HotShoe International*. Gavin also works as a freelance writer, photographer and teacher/trainer. She is a regular contributor to photography titles in the UK and abroad and has delivered and managed photography projects for charities including *On the Move* working with street homeless men (PhotoVoice/Quaker Homeless Action) as well as providing photo workshops and promotional work for a charity working with children and teenagers with Special Needs in Peru.

Sue Steward is photography critic for the *Evening Standard*, writer for photography magazines including *BJP*, *1000Words*, *PhotoMonitor* and *Next Level*. She presents talks, judges portfolio reviews and runs mentoring sessions, photography lectures and tours. Sue is an active member of the World Photography Organization and writes for its Magazine; a Trustee and Auction consultant for PhotoVoice charity; a member of the Steering Committee for *FORMAT* international festival, Derby. Recently curated exhibitions include "Between two Worlds: Contemporary Latin American Photography," Edel Assanti, London, and London Art Fair 2012, "The New Alchemists: Contemporary Photographers Transcending the Print."