

The International Center of Photography at
Mana Announces Inaugural Exhibition



**The Future is Forever:
Ten Years of the ICP-Bard MFA Program**

May 3 – August 1, 2015

Public reception: Sunday, May 3, 2015, 1PM–6PM



Joseph Desler Costa, *Tall Boy*, 2015.
Archival Pigment Print

JERSEY CITY, NJ, April 21, 2015—For its first exhibit at its new gallery on Mana Contemporary’s sixth floor, the International Center of Photography presents a diverse group show, *The Future is Forever: Ten Years of the ICP-Bard MFA Program*.

For students entering the ICP-Bard MFA program, any preconceived notions of process as image-based artists are

immediately set aside as they realize that in order to learn, some unlearning must first be done. Developing a studio practice despite using a medium that has mainly existed in the darkroom in the past or in front of a computer for the foreseeable future provides the pedagogical foundation that endows artists’ futures with something that is “forever”—how to develop an idea, work it from several angles, fail, be led

astray, return to it or not, and succeed by a process of elimination and experimentation. This approach to contemporary photography is central to the program.

Being in the studio—and in a community studio, at that—is essential to the germination of ideas and the development of work that has culminated yearly for the past decade in a string of solo thesis exhibitions. The studio environment has allowed students the freedom to experiment, to question, to wrestle with theory and sublimate it into work. This exhibit celebrates the vast diversity of such practices. Creativity through experimentation is the fundamental inheritance from the ICP-Bard MFA program and a hallmark of the International Center of Photography. In that spirit, *The Future is Forever* presents 10 years of work by graduates of the program.

Exhibiting artists include: Christine Callahan, Hernease Davis, Joseph Desler Costa, Dillon DeWaters, Christian Erroi, Nona Faustine Simmons, Tatiana Kromberg, Garret Miller, Jorge Alberto Perez, Libby Pratt, Liz Sales, David Smith, Willy Somma, Daniel Temkin, Kim Weston, and Hannah Whitaker.

During Mana's Open House on May 3, 2015, ICP will also host a 10x10 Photobook Salon at its new ICP lab from 2 to 6 p.m. Featured salon presenters include Hannah Whitaker, ICP alumna and photographer; David Solo, Brooklyn-based photobook collector; Deirdre Lawrence, Principal Librarian at the Brooklyn Museum; and Ivan Vartanian, Tokyo-based writer and publisher. The presenters will discuss their respective editing, publishing, and collecting practices within the exploding and vibrant photobook community. The 10x10 Salon requires advance registration and is limited to 50 people. RSVP at <http://icp.ticketleap.com/10x10-photobook-salon/>

After the presentation, visitors are welcome to visit the Lab, explore the photobooks, and talk to ICP Store staff. 10x10 Photobooks is a multi-platform ongoing series of photobook events organized by Matthew Carson, Russet Lederman and Olga Yatskevich. It is co-sponsored by the International Center of Photography Library and Photobook Facebook Group.

About Mana Contemporary

Founded in 2011, Mana Contemporary is a leading arts destination dedicated to celebrating the creative process. Headquartered in a former tobacco warehouse in Jersey City, Mana unites artists' studios, exhibition spaces, and ancillary services in a single location, facilitating conversation and collaboration among its burgeoning creative community. Together with its sister campuses in Chicago and Miami, Mana serves as a lively center for all members of the art world. Visitors receive unparalleled access to a range of art-making techniques and presentations first-hand. A transparent, comprehensive hub of creativity, Mana offers a profound, personal approach to contemporary art. Mana Contemporary is home to the Richard Meier Model Museum, Gary Lichtenstein Editions, Eileen S. Kaminsky Family Foundation, Armitage Gone! Dance, Keating Foundry, The Florence Academy of Art, Shen Wei Dance Arts, and many others. For additional information, please visit manacontemporary.com.