

Vaughn Sills

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Education

Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, M.F.A. (Photography)

The American University, Washington, D.C., B.A. (English Literature)

Honors and Awards

- 2011 Gold Award, Best Photography, Garden Writers Association, Media Awards
- 2009 Artist Fellowship in Photography from Massachusetts Cultural Council
- 2009 President's Fund for Faculty Excellence, Simmons College
- 2008 Polaroid Foundation Grant awarded to Trinity University press to support publication of *Places for the Spirit*
- 2007 Grant, awarded by Artadia, The Fund for Art and Dialogue
- 2005 Gold, Best Photography for Vaughn Sills' "Beyond Words," The Magazine Association of the Southeast, Georgia Review
- 2002-2006, 1999, 1989, 1986
Polaroid Grant to Artists
- 2002-2005, 2009
Simmons Faculty Grant for Research
- 2001 One of Ten Best Local Photographic Exhibitions 2001 (American Univ. Watkins Gallery), Louis Jacobson, *Washington City Paper*, Dec. 21, 2001
Southern Library Association 2000 Awards for Book Design "Award of Excellence" for *One Family*
- 1993 Polaroid Foundation Domestic Life Interpreted, awarded by the New England Foundation for the Arts/National Endowment for the Arts Regional Fellowship Panel
- 1985 Artist Fellowship awarded by The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities, Artists Fellowship Program
- 1983, 1980
Finalist, The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities, Artists Fellowship Program

Books

- 2010 *Places for the Spirit: Traditional African American Gardens*, Trinity University Press
- 2001 *One Family*, University of Georgia Press

Exhibitions

Solo and Featured Artist

- 2017 Circle Gallery, College of Environment + Design, University of Georgia, Athens GA
- 2015 Church Exhibition Gallery, Smith College Botanic Garden, Northhampton, MA
Room 83 Spring, Watertown, MA
- 2013 Matthaei Botanical Gardens, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
Cleveland Botanic Garden, Cleveland OH
Five churches and libraries, Flint, MI, sponsored by the Ruth Mott Foundation
- 2012 Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, SC
DuSable Museum of African American History, Chicago, IL
Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, IL
- 2011 Trustman Gallery, Simmons College, Boston MA
North Carolina Museum of the Coastal Plain
- 2010 Davis Orton Gallery, Hudson NY
- 2009 US Botanic Garden, West Orangerie Gallery, Washington DC
Weeks Gallery, Jamestown Community College, Jamestown, NY
Gamill Gallery, Center for the Study of Southern Culture, University of Mississippi

- 2008 Miller Block Gallery, Boston, MA
- 2006 Miller Block Gallery, Boston, MA
- 2005 Baldwin Photographic Gallery, Middle TN State Univ., Nashville, TN
- 2004 Salt Institute for Documentary Studies, Portland, ME
Georgia State Botanical Gardens, Athens, GA
Lenore Gray Gallery, Providence, RI (two person show)
- 2003 The Columbus Museum Uptown, Columbus, GA
Nesto Gallery at Milton Academy, Milton, MA (two person show)
The Photographic Resource Center at Boston University (two person show)
Flatfile Photography Gallery, Chicago, IL (three person show)
- 2002 The Carroll Reece Museum/Center for Appalachian Studies and Services, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN
The Center for the Study of Southern Culture, Barnard Observatory, Univ. Mississippi, Oxford, MS
The Cushing-Martin Gallery, Stonehill College, Easton, MA
- 2001 The Watkins Gallery, American University, Washington, DC
Red Eye Gallery, RISD, Providence, RI
Trustman Art Gallery, Simmons College, Boston, MA
Viridian Gallery, New York, NY
The Carpenter Center, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- 2000 Cambridge Multi-Cultural Arts Center, Cambridge, MA (two person show)
The Carpenter Center, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- 1995 Buckingham Browne and Nichols School, Cambridge, MA
Greenfield Community College, Greenfield, MA
- 1994 Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana
Atlanta Photography Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 1991 O.K. Harris Gallery of Art, New York, NY
Brodigan Gallery, Groton School, Groton, MA
- 1991 Hera Gallery, Wakefield, RI (four person show)
- 1990 Bridgewater State College Gallery, Bridgewater, MA (four person show)
- 1988 Trustman Art Gallery, Simmons College, Boston, MA
- 1986 The Fogg Museum, Print Room, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
Somerville Hospital, Somerville, MA
Midtown Y, New York, NY
- 1986 Bromfield Gallery, Boston, MA
- 1983 Hera Cooperative Gallery, Wakefield, RI (four person show)
Bromfield Gallery, Boston, MA
Project Community Arts Center, Cambridge, MA (two person show)
- 1982 Wessell Library, Tufts University, Medford, MA
- 1981 Photography Gallery, The Memphis Academy of the Arts, Memphis, TN
Woods-Gerry Gallery, Rhode Island School of Design (two person show)

Group Exhibitions

- 2014 Longhouse Projects, Artadia 15th Anniversary Exhibit, New York, NY
- 2010 MCC Artist Grants Photography, Arsenal Center for the Arts, Watertown, MA
Mobile Museum of Art, Mobile AL, "Shoot'n Southern: Past and Present"
- 2008 Artadia Boston 2007, Mills Gallery, Boston, MA
"Photographs of Children from the DeCordova Permanent Collection," DeCordova Museum, Lincoln, MA
- 2005 Small Works Show '05, Sacramento Street Gallery, Cambridge, MA
- 2004 Trustman Gallery, Simmons College, Boston, MA
Northlight Gallery, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
- 2003 Rice/Polack Gallery, Provincetown, MA
"New England Photographers 03," Danforth Museum of Art, Framingham, MA
- 2002 Marietta/Cobb Museum of Art, Marietta, GA
Cate Fraser Gallery, Bethesda, MD
Flatfile Photography Gallery, Chicago, IL

- 2000 Sakai City Museum, Sakai, Japan
DeCordova Museum, Lincoln, MA, "Photography in Boston: 1955-1985"
- 1998 Art Complex Museum, Duxbury, MA
- 1997 Bernard Toale Gallery, Boston, MA
Gallery 57, Cambridge, MA
Marshall Reade Gallery, Charlestown, MA
Brenau University, Gainesville, Georgia
- 1992 Whitney Museum of American Art at Equitable Center, New York, NY
Montserrat College of Art, Beverly, MA
The Art Institute of Boston, Boston, MA
- 1991 The Art Institute of Boston, Boston, MA
- 1990 Woods Gerry Gallery, Providence, RI
- 1989 Jacob's Pillow, Beckett, MA (invitational)
- 1988 Brockton Art Museum, Brockton, MA (juried)
- 1987 Houston Foto Fest, Video Display (invitational)
- 1986 Clarence Kennedy Gallery, Polaroid Corporation, Cambridge, MA
- 1984 Nesto Gallery, Milton Academy, Milton, MA (invitational)
Bromfield Gallery, Boston, MA
- 1984 Nesto Gallery, Milton Academy, Milton, MA (juried)
Viridian Gallery, New York, NY
- 1983 Bromfield Gallery, Boston, MA
East Wing Gallery, Mt. Wachusett Community College, Gardner, MA
Arles Photography Workshop, Arles, France
- 1982 Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design
Project Community Arts Center, Cambridge, MA (invitational)
Bromfield Gallery, Boston, MA
- 1981 The Rose Gallery, Boston (invitational)
Red Eye Gallery, Rhode Island School of Design
The Gallery, The Memphis Academy of the Arts (juried)
Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, ME (juried)
The Gallery School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (juried)
Museum of Science, Springfield, MA
The New England School of Photography, Boston (invitational)
Photography Gallery, San Francisco Art Institute
- 1979 Kansas City Art Institute (juried)

Bibliography

- Sills, Vaughn, *Places for the Spirit: Traditional African American Gardens*, Trinity University Press, San Antonio, 2010
- Sills, Vaughn, "Places for the Spirit," *Entelechy International, A Journal of Contemporary Ideas*, Number 4, 2006
- Sills, Vaughn, "Beyond Words," *The Georgia Review*, "Poetry and Poiesis," Vol. LVIII, No. 2, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, Summer, 2004
- Brown, Leslie, "Vaughn Sills and Pelle Cass," *In the Loupe*, Photographic Resource Center, Boston University, Vol 27, No. 6, Nov.-Dec. 2003
- Lafo, Rachel Rosenfield, *Photography in Boston*, MIT Press, 2000, Cambridge, MA
- Sills, Vaughn, *One Family*, University of Georgia Press, Athens & London, 2001
- Sills, Vaughn, "One Family, in Words and Pictures," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, January 26, 2001, Washington, D.C.
- Greenberg, Lisa Weber and Mayes, Catherine, *Immortalized*, November 1998, Art Complex Museum, Duxbury, MA
- Sills, Vaughn, "A Family I Know in Georgia," *Nieman Reports*, Spring 1997, Vol. 51 No. 1, Nieman Foundation at Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- Whitney Museum of American Art, *Dirt & Domesticity*, June 1992, ISP Papers No. 2, Whitney Museum of American Art at Equitable Center, NY, NY

Jussim, Estelle, The Psychological Portrait, Karsh, The National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Canada, 1989, pp. 87-110
Jussim, Estelle, "The Eternal Moment," Aperture, New York, NY, 1989, pp. 49-60

Collections

Baldwin Photographic Archive, MTSU, Murfreesboro, TN
DeCordova Museum, Lincoln, MA
Eaton Vance
Fidelity Corporation
Harvard Art Museums, Cambridge, MA
Millennium Hotels
Mobile Museum of Art, Mobile, AL
The Polaroid Collection

Lectures/Presentations, Selected

2016 Brandeis University, Women's Studies Research Center
2015 Smith College, Northampton, MA
2013 Matthaei Botanical Gardens, University of Michigan, MI
Tour of exhibits in churches and libraries, Flint, MI
2012 Gibbes Museum, Charleston, SC
2011 Trinity Church & Arnold Arboretum, Boston MA
North Carolina Museum of the Coastal Plain, Wilson, NC
2009 United States Botanic Garden, Washington, DC
2007 Royall House, Medford, MA
2005 Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA
Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN
New England Women in Photography, Simmons College, Boston, MA
2004 Salt Institute for Documentary Studies, Portland, ME
2003 The Columbus Museum Uptown, Columbus, GA
Nesto Gallery at Milton Academy, Milton, MA
The Photographic Resource Center, Boston University, MA
Flatfile Photography Gallery, Chicago, IL
The Photography Institute, Columbia University, NY
2002 The Carroll Reece Museum/Center for Appalachian Studies and Services,
East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN
Frazier Gallery, Bethesda, MD
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
2001 Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI
Stonehill College, Easton, MA
Photographic Resource Center, Boston, MA
Simmons Alumnae: Washington DC Regional Conference, Simmons College
1995 Buckingham Browne and Nichols School, Cambridge, MA
Greenfield Community College, Greenfield, MA
1991 Hamilton College, Clinton, NY
1989 Massachusetts College of Art, Boston, MA

Reviews, Selected

Aletti, Vince, "Family Matters: Vaughn Sills' Rural Group Portrait," Village Voice,
June 12, 2001, New York, NY
Bayliss, Sarah, "*One Family* Could be Many," Boston Sunday Globe, April 1, 2001, Boston, MA
Brown, Jane Roy, "Vaughn Sills: Capturing the Spirit of African American Gardens"
Conversations, June 2009, www.cogdesign.org, COGdesign, MA
Dorfman, Elsa, "Family Album," Women's Review of Books, Vol. XVIII, No. 8, May 2001,
Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA

Edmonds, Bob, "'One Family' captures today's rural South," McCormick Messenger, March 15, 2001, McCormick, SC

Faxon, Alicia, "Beyond the Visible," Art/New England, June/July 2004

Feeney, Mark, "A Growing Sense of Wonder,"
The Boston Globe, Mar. 31, 2011

Feeney, Mark, "Exhibit Joins Nature and Culture, the Literal and the Abstract,"
The Boston Globe, Dec. 12, 2003

Gaigano, Roni, "Still Standing: Vaughn Sills Chronicles Four Generations of *One Family*,"
The San Diego Union-Tribune, March 25, 2001, San Diego, CA

Gardoben, Cliff, "Kinfolk Lore: How the Other Half Lives," The Boston Phoenix,
March 30, 2001, Boston, MA

Gardner, Marilyn, "Telling Photos Capture Life in a Rural Family," The Christian Science Monitor, April 11, 2001, Boston, MA

Hardman, Robin, "Personal Images," Views, Summer, 1986, Vol. 7, No. 4

Hirvella, Stacy, 2010's Best Blog Posts, #2: Places for the Spirit: Traditional African American Gardens, inthegarden.marthastewart.com/tag/vaughn-sills/

Howards, Ellen, "New England Photographers '03," artsMEDIA, Summer 2003, Boston, MA
July 22, 2001, Memphis, TN

Hurley, Jack F., "Photo Essay Brings Voices to Rural Poor," The Memphis Commercial Appeal,
Memphis, TN

Jacobson, Louis, "Vaughn Sills: *One Family* – An Extended Portrait in Photographs and in Their Own Words," Washington City Paper, Vol. 21, No. 8, February 23-March 1, 2001

Liddell, Raymond, "New England Photographers '03," artsMEDIA, Summer 2003

Mabe, Chauncey, "Windows of the Soul," South Florida Sun-Sentinel, April 15, 2001, Fort
Lauderdale, FL

McMahon, Peggy, "Judy Gelles and Vaughn Sills," Views, Summer, 1984, Vol. 5, No. 4

McQuaid, Cate, "The tamed and the wild," The Boston Globe, Nov. 7, 2003

McQuaid, Cate, "In Artadia show, local artists share the spotlight," The Boston Globe, May 14, 2008

Minis, Wevonned, "Photographer chronicles African-American traditions in landscaping across the South," The Post and Courier, September 12, 2010, Charleston, SC

Park, Mary Jane, "One Family," St. Petersburg Times, April 1, 2001, St. Petersburg, FL

Power, Mark, "Checks and Balances," Views, Winter, 1986, Vol. 7, No. 2

Raque, Susan Todd, "Vaughn Sills: Time at the River, One Family," Art Papers, July and August,
1994, Vol. 18, No. 4, pp. 53-54

Rodriguez, Johnette, "Black and White World, Exploring *Personal and Political* Photographs at Hera Gallery," The Newspaper, March 28, 1991, Wakefield, MA

Stapen, Nancy, "Bromfield's December Show," The Boston Herald, December 1985, Boston, MA

Stevens, Alexander, "The Toolies of Athens, GA," Community Newspaper Co., March 16, 2001,
Cambridge, MA

Van Sichlen, Bill, "Exhibits Expose Social Ills," The Providence Journal Bulletin, March 15, 1991

Welles, Sally, "There's a Fine Line Between the *Personal and Political*," The Naragansett Times,
March 3, 1991

Wharton, David, "Reading the South," The Southern Register, Center for the Study of Southern
Culture, Univ. Mississippi, Winter 2002

Wise, Kelly, "Portraits of Self, Family and Others," The Boston Globe, July 3, 1984

Wise, Kelly, "Sills' Family Collages," The Boston Globe, May 22, 1986

Wise, Kelly, "An Unflinching Family Portrait," The Boston Globe, November 15, 1988

Professional Positions

2016-Present	Visiting Research Associate, Brandeis University Women's Studies Research Center
2013-Present	Simmons College, Associate Professor Emerita
1987-2013	Simmons College, Associate Professor of Photography
1997-2014	Leadership Council of New England Women in Photography