



California Museum of Photography  
Sweeney Art Gallery  
Culver Center of the Arts  
University of California, Riverside

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PRESS RELEASE  
For Immediate Release

California Museum of Photography at UCR ARTSblock presents

**Laurie Brown: Earth Edges**

Selections from the permanent collection  
September 17, 2016–July 1, 2017

Fall reception: Thursday, October 6, 6–8pm

The California Museum of Photography presents Laurie Brown's *Earth Edges* (1982–84), part of the artist's land-site displacement series. A reception will be held on Thursday, October 6, 6–8pm. The reception is FREE and open to the public.

*Earth Edges* consists of eight Cibachrome prints that depict various construction sites throughout Orange County. Barren and unpopulated, her fragmented compositions were created using successive shots, camera pointed toward the horizon, resulting in dynamic panoramas that bare witness to the shared mutability and singularity of the temporal physical environment.

Long devoted to documenting the changing landscapes of Southern California, for over four decades Brown has photographed areas of undeveloped desert as they are transformed into suburban spaces. Working in a style related to the New Topographics movement which she first discovered in 1971–72 while studying with the influential photographer Lewis Baltz, Brown embraces the genre of landscape photography which has historically been dominated by men. The core subject of her photographs is terraforming, the transformation by massive earth-moving equipment of naturally flat landscapes into rolling hills and other scenic features that enhance the salability of housing developments.

Laurie Brown (born in Austin, Texas in 1937) is an Orange County-based photographer who was raised in Los Angeles. Her work has been featured in solo and group exhibitions at the California Museum of Photography, Riverside; Santa Barbara Museum of Art; Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego; Palm Springs Art Museum; Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach; Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach; Huntington Library, San Marino; Center for Creative Photography, Tucson; and Sezon Museu, Tokyo, among elsewhere. Her works reside in the collections of numerous institutions, including the California Museum of Photography; Los Angeles County Museum of Art; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; and Philadelphia Museum of Art. Brown was awarded the National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship Grant in 1978, and the Outstanding Individual Artist award by ARTS Orange County in 2002. She earned her MFA at California State University, Fullerton, and her BA in International Relations at Scripps College in Claremont.

*Laurie Brown: Earth Edges* is organized by the California Museum of Photography at UCR ARTSblock, and is supported with funds provided by UCR's College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (CHASS), and the City of Riverside.

**Also on view at UCR ARTSblock**

Rotation 2015: Recent Acquisitions

Selections from the permanent collection

California Museum of Photography

March 12, 2016–June 24, 2017

A collecting institution since its founding in 1973, the CMP preserves materials that illuminate the history of photography as a technology, cultural phenomenon, and art form. The permanent collection grows annually through gifts from artists and other donors. *Rotation 2015* delves into the recent collecting activities of the museum, constructing a narrative of the objects that entered the CMP collection in 2015, organized in order of acquisition. Here you will encounter photographs from the late 1800s and early 1900s by Edward Sheriff Curtis and Jacques-Henri Lartigue; works by historically important artists of the more recent past such as Ansel Adams, Hiromu Kira, Robert Rauschenberg, and Man Ray; as well as artworks by contemporary artists using photography today, including Phil Chang, Whitney Hubbs, Barbara Kasten, Christopher Russell, and Penelope Umbrico. Furthermore, the broad scope of the CMP collection is made clear in the presentation of a stereo camera from the 1950s, a leather-bound album containing photographs of Mexico, and examples of postmortem photography from the first half of the 20th century.

Support is provided by the University of California Riverside's College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (CHASS), and the City of Riverside.

FLASH: Steve Rowell

California Museum of Photography

October 1, 2016–March 18, 2017

*FLASH: Steve Rowell* features *Parallelograms* (2015), a new video by the Los Angeles-based artist Steve Rowell. *Parallelograms* documents the covert and often extremist agencies, Political Action Committees (known as "PACs"), and lobbying groups that shape the physical and political landscape of Washington, DC. As Rowell's camera pans across banal building exteriors, disembodied outgoing voicemail recordings narrate each inconspicuous site. The rhythmic montage of sound and image steadily builds with an increasing resonance. Without offering an explicit narrative, Rowell nevertheless invites the viewer to explore intersections among political power, industry, and corporate finance.

*FLASH!* contemporary art series features single works made within the last year. The exhibitions are presented on the third floor of the CMP. Past *FLASH!* shows have featured works by Dana DeGiulio, Allan deSouza, Jessica Eaton, Anthony Lepore, Sharon Lockhart, Carrie Schneider, Amir Zaki, and others. *FLASH: Steve Rowell* is the fourteenth exhibition in the series.

Instilled Life: The Art of the Domestic Object

Selections from the permanent collection

Sweeney Art Gallery

July 2, 2016–March 25, 2017

*Instilled Life: The Art of the Domestic Object*, featuring works from the permanent collection of the Sweeney Art Gallery, is a group exhibition in which artists re-examine objects associated with household living. Interpretations of everyday objects have been prevalent throughout art history, mainly in the form of the *still life*. In the 17th century, painters such as Diego Velazquez and Johannes Vermeer employed symbolic arrangements of personal possessions such as flowers, tableware, and trinkets as reminders of life's impermanence. Centuries later in the 1960s, and testament to the still life's endurance, domestic objects also made an impact with Pop artists such as Andy Warhol and Claes Oldenburg, who drew inspiration from commercial products and popular culture. Focusing less on painting and more on sculpture, the works in *Instilled Life* abandon the conventional still life while also becoming platforms for artistic investigations of personal history and philosophies.

*Instilled Life* exemplifies the breadth of the Sweeney Art Gallery's holdings and its significance as a developing resource for academic research and dialogue. The artworks held in the permanent collection range from drawings, installations, and painting, to photography, sculpture, and video by emerging and mid-career contemporary artists. The collection is comprised of acquisitions from artists, collectors, and galleries. The majority of the works featured in this exhibition are part of a recent gift of 72 works from the Peter Norton Foundation, donated to the Sweeney Art Gallery and the California Museum of Photography in 2016.

*Instilled Life: The Art of the Domestic Object* is curated by Jennifer Frias, Associate Curator, Sweeney Art Gallery at UCR ARTSblock. UCR's College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (CHASS), and the City of Riverside have provided support.

VISITOR INFORMATION AND PRESS INQUIRIES

UCR ARTSblock is located at 3824 & 3834 Main Steet, Riverside, CA 92501, and encompasses three venues: the California Museum of Photography, Culver Center of the Arts, and Sweeney Art Gallery. ARTSblock is open Tuesday through Saturday, noon–5pm. Admission is \$3 and includes entry to all three venues. Galleries are open late and admission is free during First Thursday ArtWalks, which take place on the first Thursday of every month, 6–9pm. Film screenings are held on Fridays and Saturdays in the Culver Theater.

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