



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

3834 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92501
951.827.3755
culvercenter.ucr.edu
sweeney.ucr.edu
cmp.ucr.edu
artsblock.ucr.edu

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

California Museum of Photography at UCR ARTSblock presents

Reproduction, Reproduction

Felix Gonzalez-Torres, Rodney McMillian, Molly Zuckerman-Hartung
October 3, 2015–January 2, 2016

Thursday, October 1	6–9pm	Exhibition preview
	7pm	Gallery talk by Molly Zuckerman-Hartung
Thursday, October 8	5pm–midnight	Long Night of Arts & Innovation
Saturday, November 14	6–9pm	Fall reception

The California Museum of Photography at UCR ARTSblock presents *Reproduction, Reproduction*, featuring work by Felix Gonzalez-Torres, Rodney McMillian, and Molly Zuckerman-Hartung in an investigation of photographic reproduction. A free preview of the exhibition will be held on Thursday, October 1, 6–9pm, with a gallery talk by Zuckerman-Hartung, 7pm. ARTSblock will be open late on Thursday, October 8, 5pm–midnight, as part of the City of Riverside’s Long Night of Arts & Innovation. Finally, this exhibition and others will also be celebrated during ARTSblock’s annual fall reception on Saturday, November 14, 6–9pm. All events are FREE and open to the public.

A photograph is, at least in theory, infinitely reproducible. One copy is as good as the next. Provided the source material remains intact, limitless copies can be made, all of equal quality; the nine-hundredth iteration is no less true a photograph than the very first. In art, however, photographs are almost always produced in conditions of artificial scarcity so that they can be sold in limited editions. This limitation helps guarantee the work’s value on the market, but operates against one essential character of the photographic medium.

Reproduction, Reproduction brings together the work of three artists who employ photographic reproducibility as the central concept of a work. They all engage images – photographs, news images, or book illustrations – to leverage photographic reproducibility against the logic of the art market’s limited edition print. It is worth noting that Gonzalez-Torres, McMillian, and Zuckerman-Hartung are not strictly photographers, but artists who usually make paintings, sculptures, or installations; this distance from art photography’s conventions allows them to employ reproduction in a different, and pointed, way.

The projects presented here aim to question the very meaning of reproduction by relating the reproduction of images to other resonances of the word, such as biological reproduction, in which the child inhabits the womb of the mother, and

cultural reproduction, in which social institutions perpetuate norms from generation to generation. Taken together, the reproduction of images in these works becomes a complex allegory for the reproduction of the cultural status quo – in particular the perpetuation of racial, class, and gender hierarchies in American culture.

Reproduction, Reproduction is organized by the California Museum of Photography at UCR ARTSblock and is curated by Joanna Szupinska-Myers, CMP Curator of Exhibitions. Concepts employed in the exhibition were refined by the curator and Julian Myers-Szupinska in the co-authored text "Reproduction and Reproduction," published in *Mousse Magazine* 49 (Summer 2015). The exhibition is made possible in part by UCR's College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (CHASS) and the City of Riverside.

Felix Gonzalez-Torres (born in 1957 in Guáimaro, Cuba; died in 1996 in Miami, Florida) was a conceptual artist and gay rights activist. Gonzalez-Torres employed everyday and industrial materials to question commonly held notions about politics, love, capitalism, the art market, and social justice through his minimal and poetic works. In 1987-91, he was a member of Group Material, the New York-based art collective devoted to exploring pervading social issues through art. Gonzalez-Torres is known for his standalone works and installations, most frequently sculptural or photographic in nature. At times appealing to audience interaction, many of his works take the form of varied iterations of paper stacks or piles of candy. He is also widely known for his installations consisting of strings of light bulbs or paired objects. Gonzalez-Torres was conscious of and interested in the changing interpretations that would evolve around his work and, as such, often refrained from associating particular meanings to his works.

The work of Gonzalez-Torres has been the subject of solo exhibitions at the Museum of Modern Art, New York; The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Museo Rufino Tamayo, Mexico City; Sprengel Museum, Hannover; Museum für Moderne Kunst, Düsseldorf; Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris; Serpentine Gallery, London; Museo de Arte Latinoamericano de Buenos Aires; and Samsung Museum of Art, Seoul, among elsewhere, and his work has also been included in numerous other exhibitions. Gonzalez-Torres taught at New York University in 1987-89 and 1992, and at California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, in 1990. During his life he won many awards including the Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant, 1989; National Endowment for the Arts Artist Fellowships, 1989 and 1993; and the Gordon Matta-Clark Foundation Award, 1991. He attended the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program in 1981 and 1983, earned his BFA at Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, in 1983, and earned his MFA at the International Center of Photography, New York, in 1987.

Rodney McMillian (born in 1969 in Columbia, South Carolina) is an artist who lives and works in Los Angeles. His artistic practice embodies a wide range of media and techniques. His work has been the subject of solo exhibitions at the Aspen Art Museum; Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston; The Kitchen, New York; and Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects, among elsewhere. His work has been featured in numerous group shows, including exhibitions at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; REDCAT gallery, Los Angeles; SITE Santa Fe, New Mexico; Contemporary Art Museum, Houston; Artpace, San Antonio; Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago; The

Renaissance Society, University of Chicago; Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; and Sammlung Falckenberg, Harburg, Germany, among elsewhere. His work has also been included in several other important exhibitions, including the Sharjah Biennial, United Arab Emirates, 2015; *When the Stars Begin to Fall*, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, 2014 (traveled); *Blues for Smoke*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, 2012 (traveled); Whitney Biennial, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, 2008; California Biennial, Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, 2008; *30 Americans*, Rubell Family Collection, Miami, 2008; Moscow Biennial, Russia, 2007; *Ordinary Culture: Heikes/Helms/McMillian*, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, 2006; *Painting in Tongues*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, 2006; *Uncertain States of America*, Astrup Fearnley Museum of Art, Oslo, 2005 (traveled); *Thing: New Sculpture from Los Angeles*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, 2005; and *Frequency*, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, 2005, among others. McMillian is Associate Professor of Sculpture in the Department of Art at the University of California, Los Angeles. In 2000 he participated in the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine. He earned his MFA at the California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, in 2002; his Post-Baccalaureate Certificate at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2000; and his BA in Foreign Affairs at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, in 1991.

Molly Zuckerman-Hartung (born in 1975 in Los Gatos, California) is a painter and writer based in New York. Her work has been featured in solo exhibitions at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago; Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago; Diana Lowenstein Fine Arts Gallery, Miami; John Connelly, New York; and Galerie Kadel Willborn, Karlsruhe. Her work has been included in numerous group exhibitions, including the Whitney Biennial, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, 2014; and *Painter Painter* at the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, in 2013. She was a recipient of the Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation grant in 2013. In 2007, she co-founded the now defunct project space Julius Caesar in Chicago. She was also one of the founding organizers of Ladyfest 2000, a feminist conference and performance showcase. She currently teaches at Yale University and in the low residency MFA program at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She earned her MFA in Painting and Drawing at the School of the Art Institute in 2007, and her BA in French at Evergreen State College, Olympia, in 1998.

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 ArtWalk, which takes place on the first Thursday of every month, 6-9pm.

Press contact: artsblockpress@ucr.edu

Public contact: artsblock.ucr.edu

###