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Pressinfo

The Politics of Place

10 Feb - 28 April, 2002

BildMuseet, Umeå, Sweden

Andreas Gursky
Anthony Haughey
Nanna H
Margareta Klingberg
Maria Lantz
Walter Niedermayr
Torbjørn Rødland
Ingrid Pollard
Jorma Puranen
Allan Sekula
Jeff Wall

curator: Jan-Erik Lundström

Imaging the landscape is a particularly incisive and charged practice within contemporary photographically based art. As a means towards propositions regarding space as a cultural, historical and political variable, defined by human action and imagination, photographs of landscape are instrumental not only as ways of exploring meaning or reflecting collective knowledge, but also as paths towards identity, self-recognition, transformation.

This exhibition presents contemporary artists engaged in politically and historically defined notions of space. The artists examine current landscapes and landscape practices. They are equally concerned with the traditions of the landscape genre itself, with visually expressed historical notions of space, as well as with contemporary understanding and values. In their work, space is continually recognized as challenged, contested, complex, commanding and of grand currency.

The Politics of Place brings together specific single works and projects. In relation to the powerful position of the landscape genre within European history the selection underlines European territory; the contested history and present of this continent as seen, imagined and perceived through the work of visual artists.

A substantial catalogue accompanies the exhibition, featuring commissioned essays by Alessandra Ponte, John Taylor, Sverker Sörlin and an introduction by Jan-Erik Lundström. Separate section featuring essays by Michael T. Bravo, Lena Eskilson, Margareta Klingberg, Maria Lantz, Christer Nordlund, Klas Sandell and Bo Sundin. Illustrated with 55 colour plates. (ISBN 91-7305-167-5)

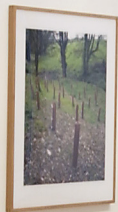
Exhibition tour:
BildMuseet, Umeå, Sweden
10 Feb - 28 April, 2002

Edsvik Konst och Kultur, Sollentuna, Sweden
<http://www.edsvikart.com>
Aug - Oct, 2002

The Finnish Museum of Photography, Helsinki, Finland
<http://www.fmp.fi>
Jan - March, 2003

Länsmuseet Västernorrland, Härnösand, Sweden
<http://www.ym.se>
March - May, 2003

For more information, please contact: Johan Sjöström
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With their own
hands, they have
created a new
world. And they
are not alone.
They are joined
by a vast, unseen
community of
others, who are
also creating a new
world.



Disputed Territory ANTHONY HAUGHEY

2005 Leopold Godowsky Jr. Color Photography Awards

EXHIBITION: July 8-August 7, 2005

AWARD CEREMONY & PANEL DISCUSSION: Thursday, July 7, 5:30-7pm

PUBLIC RECEPTION: Thursday, July 7, 7-9pm

Since 1987, the Photographic Resource Center has had the privilege to organize and present the *Leopold Godowsky Jr. Color Photography Awards*. These awards acknowledge contemporary photographers working in color and are named in honor of Leopold Godowsky Jr., the co-inventor of Kodachrome film, a man whose contributions have had a major and lasting impact on the medium of photography. Over the course of 6 award cycles—with the first presented in 1988, and the most recent in 2005—the awards have bolstered the careers of some 28 individual artists representing over 18 countries on 7 continents.

The PRC is pleased to announce the following recipients of the 2005 Leopold Godowsky Jr. Color Photography Awards. The award includes an exhibition at the PRC, an honorarium, and a publication.
(More information on the featured artists and work is provided on the following pages.)

- **Tim Davis** (*Born Malawi, Africa; resides New York, NY*)
- **Anthony Haughey** (*Born Northern Ireland; resides Republic of Ireland*)
- **Andrea Robbins/Max Becher** (*Born Boston, MA & Düsseldorf, Germany; reside New York, NY & Gainesville, FL*)
- **Anne Zahalka** (*Born and resides Sydney, Australia*)

Traditionally rotating throughout different regions of the world, the theme of the *2005 Leopold Godowsky Jr. Color Photography Awards* widens to a truly international scope. To further strengthen and expand upon this motif—reflective in part of the changed global and photographic community in which we live—the PRC aimed to honor outstanding artists with recent significant, as yet unexplored, bodies of work in color photography, regardless of where they live or work. The PRC sought nominations from top directors, curators, critics, and authors in the photographic and contemporary art communities. From these nominations, nearly 60 artists submitted work for a final jury. Jurors for the *2005 Leopold Godowsky Jr. Color Photography Awards* were **Karen Irvine, Curator, The Museum of Contemporary Photography (Chicago)**, **Brian Wallis, Director of Exhibitions and Chief Curator, International Center of Photography (New York)**, along with Leslie K. Brown, PRC Curator (Boston). The awards were granted based on the sole criterion of excellence, as represented by a portfolio of color images made within the previous two years.

By acknowledging such international photographic talent, we hope to bring to light issues important to individual photographers as well as the global community, and also introduce these photographers and their work to this region. **Significantly, most of the works this year are being shown for the first time in the US.**

ABOUT LEOPOLD GODOWSKY JR. AND THE INVENTION OF KODACHROME FILM

Leopold Godowsky Jr. (1900-1983) was an accomplished violinist who played with many prominent symphony orchestras. Early in his career, he performed jointly with his father Leopold Godowsky, one of the greatest pianists and composers of the early twentieth century. This strong family connection to the arts continued when Godowsky Jr. married Frances Gershwin, sister of George and Ira Gershwin, a vocalist who later became a recognized painter and sculptor. Godowsky Jr. and Leopold Mannes (1899-1964) discovered common passions in both music and photography while in high school. After seeing an early color movie, the two teenagers set out to "make perfect motion pictures in natural colors." While continuing their musical pursuits, Godowsky and Mannes collaborated on color film experiments throughout college. In the 1920s, Lewis Strauss (later to become chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission) helped finance the two researchers. In 1930, Dr. C. E. Kenneth Mees, first director of the Eastman Kodak Research Laboratories, hired Godowsky and Mannes and, soon thereafter, brought them to Rochester, NY, set them up in a lab, and placed scientists at their disposal in order to accelerate their research. In 1935, Kodak released Kodachrome 16mm movie film; in 1936, they introduced an 8mm version and a still film for 35mm cameras. Godowsky and Mannes ("God and Man" as they were known at Kodak) became the first to design a system of "true color," continuous tone pictures for the mass market. Kodak's "first family of color-transparency films" has had a profound effect on popular culture as well as the history of photography. The world, in effect, went from black and white to full color. The *Leopold Godowsky Jr. Color Photography Awards* were made possible through the generosity of Godowsky's late wife, Frances Gershwin Godowsky, in counsel with her son Leopold Godowsky III.

ABOUT THE WINNERS OF THE 2005 Leopold Godowsky Jr. Color Photography Awards

The *Leopold Godowsky Jr. Color Photography Awards* often reflect current cultural issues and artworld trends. Although chosen for their independent excellence, a theme that emerges in the 2005 exhibition is “the politicized landscape.” Many of the artists reference prior photographic traditions and genres—from travel and tourist to landscape and documentary—and in the process raise questions about the function and truth of photography itself.

In addition to honoring the current recipients, it is one of the goals of this 2005 cycle to pay homage to the seminal histories of the *Leopold Godowsky Jr. Color Photography Awards*, Leopold Godowsky Jr., and Kodachrome films. In addition to a display of ephemera, books, and related historical information at the PRC, a new online component will feature current and past award recipients. Beginning in July, we invite you to visit www.bu.edu/prc/godowsky.htm. *More information on the works and extensive biographies of the artists are available and will be published in the PRC's July/August newsletter, “in the loupe,” forthcoming publication, and special online component.*

TIM DAVIS

Davis's photographs selected for exhibit at the PRC are part of a larger project of approximately 80 images. This series, titled “*My Life in Politics*,” was completed during a series of trips across the United States. Referencing Walker Evans's 1930s journeys documenting American life and architecture, Davis sought to record how politics is interpreted by average Americans and enters into their daily lives and surroundings. Davis was born in 1969 in Malawi, Africa and holds an MFA in Photography from Yale University (CT). Currently he is a Visiting Professor of Photography at Bard College (NY). “*My Life in Politics*,” originally commissioned by the Bohen Foundation, will be published by Aperture in 2006. Davis is represented by Greenberg Van Doren Gallery (NY). His website is davistim.com



Tim Davis, *Seven Entertainers*, 2003, 3/6, C-print, 40 x 50 inches, Courtesy of Greenberg Van Doren Gallery, NY and the artist

ANTHONY HAUGHEY

Haughey's photographs are a part of a research-based project on conflict titled “*Disputed Territory*.” In this long-term study, he explores issues surrounding identity and nationalism among groups that claim the same geography in four areas of Europe: Northern Ireland, Bosnia, Kosovo, and the Basque Country. In his imagery, Haughey concentrates on the aftermath of border and territorial dispute, as it is reflected in and on the landscape and environment. Born in 1963 in Northern Ireland, Haughey studied Film, Photography, and Video at Surrey Institute of Art and Design and is currently a research fellow and member of *Interface*, a research initiative in art and design at Ulster University, Belfast, Northern Ireland. Additionally, the Dublin Institute of Technology and the Gallery of Photography, Dublin will publish a catalogue of “*Disputed Territory*” within the next year. Notably, this marks the first time this series will be shown in the US. His website is anthonyhaughey.com.



Anthony Haughey, *Shotgun Cartridges, S. Armagh, N. Ireland*, 2004, 4/6, Digital C-print, 50 x 49 inches, Courtesy of the artist

ANDREA ROBBINS AND MAX BECHER

Robbins/ Becher photographed their new series “*Global Village*” at a discovery center and park recently opened by Habitat for Humanity at their international headquarters in Americus, Georgia. The “attractions,” meant to promote awareness and inspire donations, consist of slum reconstructions, derived from photographs and film footage of actual sites. (Sadly, hardship is actually found right outside Global Village's front door: 28% of the population of Americus is living at poverty level.) For nearly twenty years, Robbins and Becher have investigated places that resemble other places as a result of colonialism, immigration, diaspora, and tourism—an effect they term “The Transportation of Place.” With each series they employ a different photographic style fitting the subject; in “*Global Village*,” they reference FSA photography of 1930s America. Robbins was born in 1963 in Boston, MA, and Becher was born in 1964 in Düsseldorf, Germany. Both hold BFA degrees from the Cooper Union School of Art (NY). Robbins studied at Hunter College (NY) and Becher holds an MFA from the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University (NJ). Both are Assistant Professors at the University of Florida at Gainesville. A monograph of recent work, *The Transportation of Place*, will be published by Aperture in 2006. This is the first time work from this series will be shown. They are represented by Sonnabend Gallery (NY). Their website is robbinsbecher.com.



Andrea Robbins and Max Becher, *Global Village: Shanty Store*, 2003, 1/5, archival ink jet print, 18 1/16 x 22 7/8 inches, Courtesy of Sonnabend Gallery, NY and the artists

ANNE ZAHALKA

In her newest series "*Natural Wonders*," Anne Zahalka turns her lens on landscapes and destinations related to tourism and leisure. Inspired by the idea that often nature is not natural at all, Zahalka's chosen scenes and destinations blur the lines between natural and human constructions. By examining these man-made landscapes that are both surreal and hyper-real, she asks us to consider further what is "artificial" and "real." Mostly taken in the Southwestern region of Australia, her images nonetheless touch on a universal human urge—to recreate nature within Nature itself. Zahalka was born in 1957 in Sydney, Australia. She received her Bachelor of (Visual) Arts and Post Graduate Diploma from the Sydney College of the Arts and her MFA from the University of New South Wales, College of Fine Arts. Zahalka is represented by Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery (Sydney, Australia). She has frequently exhibited in Europe and Asia, but this will be the first time her work has been shown in the US. Her website is zahalkaworld.com.



Anne Zahalka, *Santa's Kingdom, Christmas Tunnel*, Fox Studios, Sydney, 2003/04, edition of 12, Lightjet C-print, 45 1/4 x 57 inches, Courtesy of the artist and Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney, Australia

AWARD CEREMONY, PANEL DISCUSSION, AND PUBLIC RECEPTION: Thursday, July 7, 2005

The public is invited to join us in celebrating this year's award recipients on Thursday, July 7. (All artists will be in attendance.) A ceremony honoring the featured artists and a **panel discussion** on "color photography today" begins at **5:30pm** at the Photonics Center at Boston University (8 Saint Mary's Street, Auditorium 206, located at the BU Central T-Stop on the B Green Line). This will be followed by an **opening reception** at the PRC gallery (832 Commonwealth Avenue, BU West T-Stop) from **7 to 9pm**.

A SHORT HISTORY OF PAST GODOWSKY AWARD WINNERS AND JURORS

The awards have been given in 1988 (*North America*), 1991 (*Mexico, Central and South America*), 1993 (*Europe*), 1998 (*Asia*), and 2001 (*Africa*), and have recognized the following artists: Bruce Charlesworth (*US*), Rafael Goldchain (*Canada*), Patrick Nagatani and Andrée Tracey (*US*), Alex Webb (*US*), Luiz Braga (*Brazil*), Salvador Lutteroth (*Mexico*), Hector Mendez Caratini (*Puerto Rico*), Olivier Richon (*England*), Paul Seawright (*Northern Ireland*), Jem Southam (*England*), Kunt-Wolfgang Maron (*Germany*), Gianantonio Battistella (*Italy*), Miwa Yanagi (*Japan*), Eiji Ina (*Japan*), Manit Sriwanichpoom (*Thailand*), John Kiyaya (*Tanzania*), Philip Kwame Apagya (*Ghana*), Peter Magubane (*South Africa*), and Yinka Shonibare (*Nigeria*). In 1991, honorable mentions were Arnaldo Pappalardo (*Brazil*), Santiago Harker (*Columbia*), Michael Jones (*Chile*). In 1988 and 1993, Alex Webb and Olivier Richon received special recognition from Kodak for outstanding achievement in the use of Kodachrome film.

Past jurors, 1988 through 2001, include Anne Wilkes Tucker, Martha Langford, Charles Biasiny-Rivera, Merry Foresta, Susana Leval, Charles Stainbeck, Sylvia Wolf, Helaine Posner, Elizabeth Ten Grotenhuis, Noriko Fuku, Corinne Jennings, and Deborah Willis.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND IMAGES CONTACT:

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*****PLEASE NOTE:** THE PRC will be **closed** for installation of the 2005 Leopold Godowsky Jr. Color Photography Awards from June 27 to July 6. In addition, after August 7, the PRC **closes for the remainder of the summer** until the **2005 PRC Benefit Auction** (Preview exhibition, September 16-October 23). Save the date: the PRC's auction will take place Friday, **October 28, 2005**.***

ABOUT THE PRC:

Founded in 1976, the Photographic Resource Center (PRC) is an independent non-profit organization located on the campus of Boston University. Consistently cited by the press as an important voice in photography, the PRC provides its members and the general public with thought-provoking exhibitions, distinctive education programs, wide-ranging resources, and unique special events. Emphasizing new ideas and trends in contemporary photography, the PRC's gallery hosts 6 exhibitions each year. Led by regional and national photography luminaries, regular PRC education programs include lectures, workshops, and portfolio reviews, as well as tours for school and community groups. The PRC's constantly expanding resources are designed to keep its community members apprised of photography information and happenings. Resource highlights include a comprehensive website, a bi-monthly newsletter, *in the loupe*, and the Aaron Siskind library. It is supported by grants from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the Boston Cultural Council, numerous private foundations, and the ongoing generosity of its members. **PRC Location and Hours:** The PRC is located at 832 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA, 02215. Public transportation: Green B Line, outbound, BU West stop. Hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10 to 6pm, Thursdays from 10 to 8pm, Saturday and Sunday 12 to 5pm. Admission is \$3/general public, \$2/students and seniors, and free to all on Thursdays and on the last weekend of every month. The PRC is always free to members, Institutional Plus member schools, children under 18, BU students, faculty, and staff, as well as all school groups with appointments. For more information, call 617-975-0600 or visit our website at www.prcboston.org. The PRC is accessible.



