



University of Maine Museum of Art

## NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli  
207.561.3350  
kj@umit.maine.edu  
www.umma.umaine.edu

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### **Thirty-four Photographers from throughout the United States Chosen for UMMA's Photo National Exhibition**

The University of Maine Museum of Art is pleased to announce that 34 photographers were selected for UMMA's *Photo National 2011: A Survey of Contemporary Photography* exhibition that will run June 24 - September 24, 2011. The *Photo National* exhibition is UMMA's first juried competition open to fine art photographers from throughout the country. One-hundred-thirty-two individuals submitted materials for this highly competitive exhibition which offers a glimpse into the diversity of contemporary photographic processes and approaches prevalent today.

The jurors for *Photo National 2011* were Brian Paul Clamp and George Kinghorn. Clamp, who served as guest juror, received his Master of Arts in Critical Studies in Modern Art from Columbia University and is the Director of ClampArt Gallery, NYC. George Kinghorn is Director and Curator of the University of Maine Museum of Art.

"When jurying the *Photo National 2011* competition, I was struck by the vast diversity of work — not only in terms of subject matter, but also technique (including format, lighting, print type, etc.). It is truly exciting to see such a wide range of photographic art being produced with artists forging ahead in so many different directions. However, that diversity also made our job of choosing only a small group of works for the final show all the more difficult," says juror Brian Clamp. The jurors were able to identify several common threads including photo documentary styles and the prevalence of digital color photography. UMMA Director George Kinghorn states, "We are most enthusiastic about this exhibition as the selection represents new attitudes and approaches to image making. The quantity of color submissions attests to the wide-spread practice of digital photography and large-scale color printing."

The *Photo National 2011* exhibition will feature works by Keliy Anderson-Staley, Jeffery C. Becton, Melonie Bennett, Leslie Bowman, Anne-Claude Cotty, K.K. DePaul, Julie K. Gray, Paul Greenberg, Lydia A. Harris, Sean Alonzo Harris, Tom Hubbard, Rowan James, Greg Kaiser, Paul Karabinis, Lisa Kessler, J.J. L'Heureux, Alexandru Mandrila, Nancy M. Manter, Ben Marcin, Rania Matar, Michael Mergen, Meredith Miller, Robert Moran, Jim Nickelson, Christine Osinski, Rachel Bee Porter, Harold Ross, Dianna Rust, Magnus Stark, Sandra Stark, Rylan Steele, Sarah Szwajkos, Shoshannah White and Mong-Jane Wu.

The University of Maine Museum of Art, located in the heart of downtown Bangor, is part of the University of Maine, the state's premier public university. UMMA focuses on exhibiting contemporary art in all media and has a permanent collection of over 3,700 objects with strengths in contemporary photography, works on paper and original prints.

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