

MEDIA ALERT * * * MEDIA ALERT * * * MEDIA ALERT

National YoungArts Foundation Presents First Photography Exhibition

Enlightened: Contemporary Photography by YoungArts Alumni Opens May 5

Multi-Generational Exhibition Featuring Work by 27 YoungArts Alumni from 1982 to 2016

Curated by Esteemed Publisher, YoungArts Master Teacher and Panelist Michelle Dunn Marsh

WHAT: National YoungArts Foundation (YoungArts) presents its first-ever exhibition dedicated solely to photography, *Enlightened: Contemporary Photography by YoungArts Alumni*. Featuring the works of 27 artists in Photography, Visual Arts, and Design disciplines, this multi-generational show is curated by photography luminary and YoungArts master teacher and panelist Michelle Dunn Marsh.

Enlightened celebrates the work of established alumni such as photographers Thomas Carr and Corinne May Botz who were YoungArts winners in 1982 and 1995, respectively, alongside a younger generation of artists including Cidgy Bossuet (2012), Aaron Cohen (2016) and Maxwell Zengage (2016). Spanning 34 years between the eldest and the youngest of participants, the exhibition explores photography across time as a twenty-first century medium. By looking at history and contemporary techniques, artists analyze their role in time-preservation and present investigations into the contemporary photographer's viewpoint, intuitions and artistic choices.

"True to photography's origins and its proliferation as a polyvalent medium today, the 27 practitioners chosen for this exhibition do not follow one method or consistent set of tools," said curator Michelle Dunn Marsh. "The ideas and experiences they investigate through the objects they create are as complex as they are, and as varied as the viewers who enter into dialogue with and activate their photographs."

WHO: Participating YoungArts Alumni (1982 – 2016)

Randolph Albright | Photography | 1996
Bruce Bennett | Photography | 2014
Cidgy Bossuet | Visual Arts | 2012
Corinne May Botz | Photography | 1995
Thomas Carr | Photography | 1982
Aaron Cohen | Photography | 2016
Layla Cuilan | Photography | 2016
Aisha Jemila Daniels | Photography | 2014
Tracy Federwitz | Photography | 2004
Holly Fischer | Photography | 2012
Ilan Friedland | Photography | 2016
Lori Hepner | Photography | 1999
Rachel Hillery | Photography | 2003
Sarah Miller | Photography | 2013
Sue Montoya | Photography | 2009
Darion Owens | Photography | 2016
Francesca Perticarini | Photography | 2016
Lee Pivnik | Visual Arts | 2014

Andrea Reyes | Photography | 2016
Rebecca Siqueiros | Design Arts and Visual Arts | 2016
Belle Strachan | Photography | 2015
Allegra Sussman | Photography | 2012
Jordan Tiberio | Photography | 2011
Pooja Tripathi | Photography | 2014
Sarah Tyson | Visual Arts | 2013
Peter Yoon | Photography | 2016 | Photography
Maxwell Zengage | Photography | 2016

Designer, editor and arts advocate, **Michelle Dunn Marsh** is currently the executive director at Photographic Center Northwest and is the founder of Minor Matters Books. Her professional experience includes 15 years with Aperture Foundation, senior editor of art and design at Chronicle Books, and publishing consultant to Jim Marshall Photography, LLC, Museum of Glass, and other cultural institutions. She is also a master teacher and panelist in Photography with YoungArts.

WHEN & WHERE: **Opening Reception**
Friday, May 5, 2017 at 7:00 PM
YoungArts Gallery
2100 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami, FL, 33137
Free and open to the public with [RSVP](#)

MORE INFO: <http://www.youngarts.org/exhibitions>

CONTACT: Heike Dempster, National YoungArts Foundation
hdempster@youngarts.org
305.377.1140, extension 1304

About the National YoungArts Foundation

The National YoungArts Foundation (YoungArts) was established in 1981 by Lin and Ted Arison to identify and nurture the most accomplished young artists in the visual, literary, design and performing arts, and assist them at critical junctures in their educational and professional development. Through a wide range of annual programs, regular performances, and partnerships with some of the nation's leading cultural institutions, YoungArts aspires to create a strong community of alumni and a platform for a lifetime of encouragement, opportunity and support.

YoungArts' signature program is an application-based award for emerging artists ages 15 – 18 or in grades 10 – 12 from across the United States. Selected through a blind adjudication process, YoungArts Winners receive valuable support, including financial awards of up to \$10,000, professional development and educational experiences working with renowned mentors—such as Debbie Allen, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Rebecca Walker, Plácido Domingo, Frank Gehry, Jeff Koons, Wynton Marsalis, Salman Rushdie and Carrie Mae Weems—and performance and exhibition opportunities at some of the nation's leading cultural institutions, including the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (Washington, D.C.), The Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York), The Museum of Modern Art (New York) and New World Center (Miami). Additionally, YoungArts Winners are eligible for nomination as a U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts, one of the nation's highest honors for high school students who exemplify academic and artistic excellence.

YoungArts Winners become part of a thousands-strong alumni network of artists, which offers them additional professional opportunities throughout their careers. YoungArts alumni who have gone on to become leading professionals in their fields include actresses Viola Davis, Anna Gunn, Zuzanna Szadkowski and Kerry Washington; Broadway stars Raúl Esparza, Billy Porter, Andrew Rannells and Tony Yazbeck; recording artists Josh Groban, Judith Hill and Chris Young; Metropolitan Opera star Eric Owens; musicians Terence Blanchard, Gerald Clayton, Jennifer Koh and Elizabeth Roe; choreographers Camille A. Brown and Desmond Richardson; visual artists Daniel Arsham and Hernan Bas; internationally acclaimed multimedia artist Doug Aitken; New York Times bestselling author Sam Lipsyte; and Academy Award-winning filmmaker Doug Blush.

For more information, visit youngarts.org, [facebook.com/YoungArtsFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/YoungArtsFoundation) or twitter.com/YoungArts. To watch a brief video about YoungArts, [click here](#).