

Wellin Museum Of Art To Present Two Exhibitions

CLINTON, N.Y. — The Wellin Museum of Art at Hamilton College will present concurrent exhibitions that aim to generate dialogues around world issues including but not limited to history, geography, boundaries, immigration, citizenship, community and culture. “This Place” explores the contested spaces of Israel and the West Bank through the eyes of 12 acclaimed photographers from around the world who present various perspectives on the region. “Margarita Cabrera: Space in Between” examines the relationship between the United States and Latin America, presenting the stories of people from throughout Latin America who have crossed the border between the United States and Mexico. Both exhibitions will be on view at the Wellin February 10–June 10.

Exploring academic tie-ins that are created through artistic collaboration, the Wellin will present “This Place” concurrently with the Tang Teaching Museum at Skidmore College, the Picker Art Gallery at Colgate University and the University Art Museum at the University at Albany, SUNY. The exhibition is organized by independent curators Frederic Brenner, Matthew Brogan and Charlotte Cotton.

The exhibition explores Israel and the West Bank as

both place and metaphor through the work of 12 photographers: Frederic Brenner, Wendy Ewald, Martin Kollar, Josef Koudelka, Jungjin Lee, Gilles Peress, Fazal Sheikh, Stephen Shore, Rosalind Fox Solomon, Thomas Struth, Jeff Wall and Nick Waplington. The exhibition is divided into four parts, hosted by the Wellin, the Tang, SUNY and Colgate. Artists whose work will be featured at the Wellin Museum include Brenner, Ewald, Sheikh and Shore.

Between 2009 and 2012, each of the photographers in “This Place” spent an extended period of time in Israel and the West Bank. The photographers produced wide-ranging work, both in content and approach. Whether rendered as large-format color, black and white photographs, or documentary images that span pictorial genres of landscape, architecture and portraiture, the works in “This Place” speak to the complexities of the region and to the expansiveness of photography itself.

“Space in Between” is a collaboration between artist Margarita Cabrera, the Arizona State University Art Museum and the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix. A continuation of Cabrera’s ongoing work with Latino communities, the project centers on the creation of artworks and promotion of cul-



“This Place,” Stephen Shore, “Hebron,” 2011, chromogenic color print, 41¾ by 50¾ inches. Courtesy of the artist and 303 Gallery, New York. ©Stephen Shore

tural dialogues around community, craft, immigration, cultural identity and labor. The works on view are fabric forms that resemble desert plants and incorporate stories — stitched into the material itself — of the often-harrowing experiences of Latin Americans crossing the US border.

The exhibition uses traditional sewing and embroidery techniques from Los Tenagos, Hidalgo, Mexico, which employs colorful narrative traditions reflecting popular culture, traditional rituals and myths of the Otomi indig-

enous communities. Sometimes appropriating and other times reclaiming these techniques, immigrant workers relay their own personal border-crossing experiences. The title chosen by Cabrera is inspired by the term *Nepantla*, which is a Nahuatl Aztec language term referencing “the space in the middle” as it relates to marginalized cultures and their resistance strategies for survival.

The Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art is at 198 College Hill Road. For additional information, 315-859-4396 or www.hamilton.edu/wellin.



“Agave (Laura Gutierrez)” by Margarita Cabrera, 2016, border patrol uniform fabric, copper wire, thread, terracotta pot, 38 by 25 by 14 inches. Courtesy of the artist and Talley Dunn Gallery, Dallas. ©Margarita Cabrera

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