

CORCORAN

GALLERY OF ART • COLLEGE of ART + DESIGN



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 29, 2009

Kristin Guiter, Director of Public Relations
(202) 639-1867, kguiter@corcoran.org

Rachel Cothran, PR Coordinator,
(202) 639-1833, rcothran@corcoran.org

CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART AND COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN HOSTS FOTOWEEK DC 2009 EVENTS

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The **Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design** will host a series of events during the annual, weeklong celebration of **FotoWeek DC (November 7 – 14, 2009)**. A Palladium Sponsor of **FotoWeek DC 2009**, the Corcoran stands as a major center for collecting, displaying and studying photography and photojournalism.

On Friday, November 6 at 1:30 p.m., photographer Lotte Christensen will speak in the Corcoran's Frances and Armand Hammer Auditorium about her photographic work, on view in the FotoWeek exhibition *What Lies Beneath: Nature & Urban Landscape in EU Photography* at The Embassy of Sweden. The lecture is free and open to the public.

On Sunday, November 8, the Corcoran hosts a highlight of the –festival – **FotoWeek DC Portfolio Reviews** in the Corcoran's North Atrium **from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.** Portfolio Review participants will receive one-on-one feedback on their portfolios from some of the industry's best as prominent photographers from all specialties, curators, educators, photo editors and experts from the fields of commercial, fine art, photojournalism and documentary act as reviewers.

- more -

During a break in the Portfolio Reviews on **Sunday, November 8**, Tim Wride, Curator of the Department of Photographs at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) will present *The Sky is Falling? What's Up in Photo Land and why it's time to be Optimistic about Image Making* at **1 p.m.** in the Corcoran's Francis and Armand Hammer Auditorium. This irreverent lecture on the state of the photography world in the current economic climate is free and open to the public.

Dr. Deborah Willis, Chair and Professor of Photography and Imaging at Tisch School of the Arts at New York University, will share her vast knowledge on the subject of photography in a free public lecture on **Monday, November 9 at 12 p.m.** in the Frances and Armand Hammer Auditorium. Named one of the 100 Most Important People in Photography by *American Photography Magazine*, she is one of the nation's leading historians of African American photography and curators of African American culture. Her book *Posing Beauty* was released in October.

At **2 p.m. on Monday, November 9**, University of Texas at Austin School of Journalism scholar Donna DeCesare will lead a free, public lecture at the Corcoran's Frances and Armand Hammer Auditorium. DeCesare is widely known for her groundbreaking photographic reportage on the spread of Los Angeles gangs in Central America. Her photographs of children in Guatemala and Columbia depicting former child soldiers, survivors of sexual abuse, and those living with HIV helped UNICEF to develop protocols for photographing children at risk. The recipient of numerous awards including an Emmy award and most recently, a Fulbright Fellowship in Colombia, DeCesare is currently documenting narratives of loss and survival among those who have suffered political violence in Colombia.

On **Wednesday, November 11 at 7 p.m.**, the Corcoran will welcome photographer Edward Burtynsky for a special talk, **Edward Burtynsky and the Industrial Sublime**. Capturing landscapes that are both beautiful and terrifying, Burtynsky has mastered the art of the industrial sublime in photography. On this evening, he will discuss the exhibition *Edward Burtynsky: Oil* on view at the Corcoran through December 13.

The Corcoran College of Art + Design will host a closing reception for

Currency/Exchange on **Thursday, November 12 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.** in the Corcoran's North Atrium. The exhibition, which will be on view through Sunday, November 15 in Gallery 31, showcases photographic work made by Corcoran students who traveled to El Salvador. The work explores contemporary issues of migration, diaspora and cultural identity.

On **Friday, November 13 beginning at 7 p.m.**, curator, writer and educator Tim Wride will host **Introduction to Critical Looking: A Seminar for Thinking Photographers** in the Corcoran's Frances and Armand Hammer Auditorium. Participants in this three-hour seminar will learn to challenge and advance their art-making abilities by assessing their own work as well as the work of others through social, economic and market trends.

On **Saturday, November 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**, Adobe Digital Imaging's Julieanne Kost will provide a free all-you-need-to-know session on Lightroom and Photoshop CS4. Kost, a Senior Digital Imaging Evangelist, will share little-known tips and tricks that will significantly boost productivity for every photographer, from the novice to the seasoned expert.

The Corcoran is pleased to host a **Fotoweek DC Lecture Series on Friday, November 14 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.** in the Frances and Armand Hammer Auditorium. At 2 p.m., photographer Ernesto Bazan will present a multimedia piece about his life and extensive work in Cuba, and will share images from his most recent book, Cuba. At 3 p.m., Beijing-based Matthew Niederhauser will show his work on China's urban development and youth culture, including his book Sound Kapital, focused on Beijing's underground music scene. Both Lori Brinker and Chris Hondros have covered the war in Iraq and its aftermath. At 4 p.m., they will show their work and participate in a panel discussion.

On **Saturday, November 14 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**, the Corcoran welcomes back LACMA Department of Photography Curator Tim Wride for **Critical Looking: The Art of Conscious Creativity**, a special class held at the Corcoran College of Art + Design. Through interactive exercises, group critiques and one-on-one portfolio reviews, Wride guides students toward new creative growth.

****For more information, visit www.corcoran.org/fotoweekdc. For a full schedule of events and programs, visit www.fotoweekdc.org****

PHOTOGRAPHY AT THE CORCORAN

On view at the Corcoran Gallery of Art, *Edward Burtynsky: Oil (through December 3, 2009)*, is an original photography exhibition featuring 56 large-scale color landscapes by Canadian artist Edward Burtynsky. The exhibition surveys a decade of photographic imagery exploring the subject of oil. Featuring many new photographs, most never-before exhibited, *Oil* chronicles the “lifecycle” of this major energy source, one that has profoundly shaped the modern world.

In addition to revealing the rarely-seen mechanics of its manufacture, Burtynsky photographs the effects of oil on our lives, depicting landscapes altered by its extraction from the earth and by the cities and suburban sprawl generated around its use. He also addresses the coming “end of oil,” as we confront its rising cost and dwindling availability.

Burtynsky's photographs, printed at large scale, render his subjects with transfixing clarity of detail. His extensive exploration is organized thematically: aerial views of oil fields, the architecture of massive refineries, highway interchanges ribboning across the landscape, and motorculture aficionados at automotive events. In considering the consequences of oil use, the artist has photographed a series of arresting landscapes: derelict oil derricks, vistas of junked vehicles, recycling yards, and mammoth oil-tanker shipbreaking operations. *Edward Burtynsky: Oil* promises to be the definitive photographic documentation of this much debated subject.

On view at the Corcoran College of Art + Design's Gallery 31, *Currency / Exchange (through November 15, 2009)* showcases work made by Corcoran photography students in El Salvador while enrolled in the seminar and travel course “International Experience / Transnational Identity.” Students Kathleen Altemus, Julie Carrasco, Nick Kirkpatrick, Erika Nizborski, Jenny Yang and Michelle Yo learned about the history and culture of the smallest Central American country and its transnational community in the D.C. metro area while exploring contemporary issues of migration, diaspora and cultural identity. The photographs of *Currency / Exchange* speak to the experience of translating a culture and attest to the “currency” of images in the making of a cultural landscape. Gallery 31 is open during Gallery hours, and admission is free.

PHOTOGRAPHY AT THE CORCORAN COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN

The Corcoran photography and photojournalism BFA programs are among the most innovative in the country, offering an ideal training ground for a new generation of creative visual reporters, documentarians and visual artists. Our faculty includes working photographers from *The Washington Post* and other news media, White House photography staff, and picture editors from *National Geographic*, while intern programs offer placement in these and other outlets. Students in the Corcoran's Fine Art Photography BFA program work with practicing artists while exploring work in both traditional darkrooms and cutting-edge digital photography and video labs. For more information on these and other educational opportunities at the Corcoran College of Art + Design, visit www.corcoran.edu.

ABOUT THE CORCORAN

The Corcoran Gallery of Art, a privately funded institution, was founded in 1869 as Washington's first and largest non-federal museum of art. It is known internationally for its distinguished collection of historical and modern American art as well as contemporary art, photography, European painting, sculpture and the decorative arts. Founded in 1890, the Corcoran College of Art + Design is Washington's only four-year college of art and design offering BFA degrees in Photojournalism, Digital Media Design, Fine Art, Graphic Design and Photography; AFA degrees in Digital Media Design, Fine Art, Graphic Design and Photography; a five-year Bachelor of Fine Arts/Master of Arts in Teaching (BFA/MAT); and a two-year Master of Arts (MA) in Interior Design or History of Decorative Arts. The College's Continuing Education program offers part-time credit and non-credit classes for children and adults and draws more than 2,500 participants each year. Visit www.corcoran.org for information.

ABOUT FOTOWEEK DC

[FotoWeek DC](#), one of the largest international photography festivals in the world, returns to Washington, DC with The FotoWeek DC Awards competition exhibition November 7 – 14, 2009 and an unprecedented roster of events and participating organizations.

FotoWeekDC/page six

Established in 2008, FotoWeek DC celebrates the profession, the art and the sweeping influence of photography, embracing local, national and international communities of photographers, students, amateurs and the general public during its weeklong festivities in Washington, DC and the surrounding region.

Please visit www.fotoweekdc.org for a full itinerary of events, registration for portfolio reviews, and donation opportunities. FotoWeek DC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

###