

PRESENTATION HOUSE

A CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS

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MEDIA RELEASE

THE ZONE OF CONVENTIONAL PRACTICE AND OTHER REAL STORIES

THE ZONE OF CONVENTIONAL PRACTICE AND OTHER REAL STORIES is an exhibition and book of contemporary narrative photography created to recognize the activity of Canadian photo-related art in the 1980s. Organized by Cheryl Simon for Optica in Montreal, the exhibition will tour to a number of galleries in Canada.

This decade has been significant both for art and photography as one where the boundaries between the two disciplines have begun to disintegrate. More importantly, it is one very much influenced by this same blending in communications, social, psychoanalytical, literary and aesthetic concerns. THE ZONE OF CONVENTIONAL PRACTICE AND OTHER REAL STORIES combines the works of established and lesser known photographers, artists, and writers to contextualize this period within the common ground of narrative.

To different degrees and in different ways the works in this project are concerned with narrative in relationship to power and authority. While many of the works here examine the function and effects of narrative as it is perceived within social and psychological experience, and as it manifests itself concretely in social and cultural production, others utilize narrative forms to relate and restate stories of the human condition.

Both the book and exhibition consist of visual work by fourteen artists from across the country: Raymonde April, Michel Campeau, Sorel Cohen, Blake Fitzpatrick, Eldon Garnet, Angela Grauerholz, Arni Haraldsson, Jamelie Hassan, Nicole Jolicoeur, Nina Levitt, Susan McEachern, Robert Moore, Sylvie Readman, and Cheryl Sourkes. The book, edited by Cheryl Simon, will include a number of written works, by Serge Berard, Jean-Pierre Denis, Liza McCoy, and Peter Wollheim.

The book, which will be available at Presentation House Gallery during the run of the show, is the first major publication on contemporary photo-based art practice in Canada, for about five years. The exhibition is supported in Vancouver by the District of West Vancouver.

Cheryl Simon, curator and editor, will give an informal talk about the project on August 31, 7:15, just prior to the opening reception which begins at 8 pm.

Exhibition dates: September 1 - October 8

Opening reception: August 31, 8-10 pm

Talk by Cheryl Simon: August 31, 7:15 pm (FREE)

Lecture supported by the Canada Council

Hours: Wed to Sun, 12 - 5 pm; Thurs, 12 - 9 pm
We gratefully acknowledge major sponsorship by: Government of Canada, Canada Council,
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