

April 24, 2001

Press Release

Public Talk

by

Rod Slemmons

Professor Emeritus at the University of Washington

Saturday, May 12, 2001 @ 2:00 pm

On the Exhibitions

Seydou Keïta

Portraits from Mali

and

Disfarmer

Portraits from Arkansas



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Rod Slemmons addresses the politics of "rediscovering" photographic work and the questions around presenting commercial work in an art gallery setting. The uniqueness of these two bodies of work will be considered with a view to understanding the social, anthropological and art historical significance of such exhibitions of visual culture in traditional visual arts venues.



Photo by Mike Disfarmer,
collection of the Arkansas Arts Center

Rod Slemmons has been working with large and small photography collections since 1974. As a curator at the Whatcom Museum in Bellingham, the Museum of History and Industry in Seattle, and the Seattle Art Museum, he has produced more than fifty exhibitions over the past 25 years. Trained at the Rochester Institute of Technology and the George Eastman House/International Museum of Photography, he has worked on the preservation of collections for the National Park Service, numerous Native American archives, and many large and small historical societies in Washington. Currently he teaches Graduate Museum Studies and the history of photography at the University of Washington.

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