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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **USC Fisher Museum of Art to open Pacific Standard Time exhibition in Spring**

Los Angeles, CA-The USC Fisher Museum of Art is proud to present Sight Specific: LACPS and the Politics of Community. This Spring 2012 exhibition contextualizes the personalities, programs, and impact of the Los Angeles Center for Photographic Studies by reconstructing selections from the organization's exhibitions from 1974 to 1985. By supplementing the over one hundred works of art with contemporary ephemera and video interviews, Sight Specific will explore how LACPS as an organization attempted to frame the discussion of contemporary issues surrounding photographic practice, and ultimately, how the organization set the stage for the future of image-making within and beyond Southern California.

Chartered in 1973 with the mission of "encouraging growth and appreciation of photography as an art form", the Los Angeles Center for Photographic Studies (LACPS) built its reputation as the sole provider of institutional support for photographers and their art during this period.

"There was no other game in town" says curator Tim B. Wride. "The artists needed a place to come together, to share ideas and extend critical approaches to the medium."

LACPS became the locus of an art-making community and a site for innovative exhibitions. It helped reclaim the history of photography in the region that had been largely overlooked.

Selma Holo, Director of the USC Fisher Museum of Art says, "showing these long-scattered pieces in one museum, under the grand umbrella of Pacific Standard Time will recuperate LACPS as a history – and will allow us to celebrate accordingly".

"A number of the artists in the show were associated with USC" says Holo. "It is especially appropriate" to bring this exhibition to the campus".

"Almost all of the founding members were university and college instructors," continues Wride. "What they began continues to inspire young artists and is crucial to the health of the art-making community."

Sight Specific: LACPS and the Politics of Community will run from January 11 through April 7, 2012.

## **ABOUT PACIFIC STANDARD TIME: ART in LA. 1945 – 1980**

Sight Specific: LACPS and the Politics of Community is part of [Pacific Standard Time](#). Pacific Standard Time is a collaboration of more than sixty cultural institutions across Southern California, coming together for six months beginning in October 2011 to tell the story of the birth of the Los Angeles art scene and how it became a major new force in the art world. Each institution will make its own contribution to this grand-scale story of artistic innovation and social change, told through a multitude of simultaneous exhibitions and programs. Exploring and celebrating the significance of the crucial post-World War II years through the tumultuous period of the 1960s and 70s, Pacific Standard Time encompasses developments from modernist architecture and design to multi-media installations; from L.A. Pop to post-minimalism; from the films of the African American L.A. Rebellion to the feminist happenings of the Woman's Building; from ceramics to Chicano performance art; and from Japanese American design to the pioneering work of artists' collectives.

Initiated through \$10 million in grants from the Getty Foundation, Pacific Standard Time involves cultural institutions of every size and character across Southern California, from Greater Los Angeles to San Diego and Santa Barbara to Palm Springs.

Pacific Standard Time is an initiative of the Getty. The presenting sponsor is Bank of America.

## **ABOUT TIM WRIDE**

Our special Guest Curator, Tim B. Wride, has a wealth of experience in the art of photography. He was the founding director of the No Strings Foundation, a non-profit foundation established in 2004 with a mission to provide direct funding to U.S. photographic artists, and is now the William and Sarah Ross Soter Curator of Photographs at The Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, FL.

Wride brings over 14 years of experience as he was the Curator of Photography at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. There, he curated over twenty-five permanent collections and exhibitions, including "Retail Fictions: the Commercial Photography of Ralph Bartholomew" (1997); "Shifting Tides: Cuban Photography after the Revolution" (2001); "Donald Blumberg" (2002); and "Trajectories: The Photographic Work of Robbert Flick" (2004).

He is also the author of the catalogues that accompanied these exhibitions, and contributor to the photography component and an anthology essay to the exhibition "Made in California: Art, Image and Identity, 1990-2000" (2000). Some of his other curated works, "To Protect and To Serve: Photography from the LAPD Archives" (2002) have travelled internationally and received wide acclaim.

## **ABOUT USC FISHER MUSEUM OF ART**

The [USC Fisher Museum of Art](#) – established in 1939 – is accredited by the American Association of Museums. It functions as a center of intellectual inquiry and aesthetic enjoyment in support of USC's goals of research, teaching, artistic creation, and service to society. The Fisher Museum bears special responsibility to link the art in its permanent collections and the art it presents in its temporary exhibitions to all of USC's present and future audiences: to its students, faculty, staff alumni, and

surrounding communities. Fisher Museum offers an array of programming, including lectures, artist's talks, yoga, film screenings, concerts, and poetry readings to enhance and support its exhibitions. Fisher Museum is also proud to be the home and working laboratory for the USC International Museum Institute, a think-tank for museum professionals and a division of the USC College.

#### **MUSEUM HOURS AND ADMISSION:**

OPEN September through May of the USC Academic Calendar.

Tuesday through Friday (noon to 5), and Saturday (noon to 4).

CLOSED Sundays and Mondays

Admission to the exhibition and all related events are free. For more information please call (213) 740-4561 or log onto our website at <http://fisher.usc.edu>.

#### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

##### [Visions & Voices](#)

Sight Specific: LACPS and the Politics of Community Symposium

Saturday February 11, 2012

1:00 PM – 5:30 PM

Location: Gin D. Wong FAIA Conference Center, Harris Hall 101

The USC Fisher Museum of Art will host a daylong symposium to explore the history, current state, and future potential of artist-run/alternative spaces and their interdependence with the communities that define the region's cultural identity.

Session 1: 1 PM – 3 PM

##### *"Looking Back"*

Join exhibition Curator Tim Wride as he moderates a panel comprised of former members of LACPS to contextualize its importance as a cultural and community phenomenon.

Panelists include: Darryl Curran, Suda House, Deborah Irmis, Robert Glenn Ketchum, and Howard Spector

Session 2: 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

##### *"Over the Edge"*

Join Dr. Rochelle Steiner, Dean of USC Roski School of Fine Arts, as she moderates a panel featuring artists, cultural critics, and arts administrators looking to the future of "community" within the arts from small collectives to encyclopedic museums.

Panelists include: Mark Allen, Edgar Arceneaux, Anne Bray, Evelena Ruether, and Carol Stakenas

Special Reception

Saturday February 11, 2012

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Join our celebration of Sight Specific: LACPS and the Politics of Community.

[Poetry with Fisher@USC](#)

Tuesday, February 21, 2012

4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

"A Sight Specific Poetry Reading" curated by Professor David St. John, who will be joined by the poetry faculty of USC's Ph.D. Program in Literature and Creative Writing: Professor Carol Muske Dukes, Associate Professor Mark Irwin, and Professor Susan McCabe.

[Student Party with Fisher@USC](#)

Celebration of the Arts

Saturday, March 3, 2012

Noon – 3:00 PM

Join us for our Celebration of the Arts: an afternoon filled with music, live entertainment, art-making activities, free food and refreshments.

[Families with Fisher@USC](#)

Saturday, April 7, 2012

Noon – 2:00 PM

Families are invited to our special Family Day, filled with art activities, refreshments and music. All ages are welcome!

Yoga with Fisher@USC

Select Wednesdays from 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

Enjoy yoga in the museum, a series cosponsored by USCRecreationalSports.

**Free Docent Tours of Sight Specific will take place every Wednesday at 3:00 PM.**

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All events are free and take place at USC Fisher museum of Art unless otherwise stated

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