

MILLS

PRESS RELEASE

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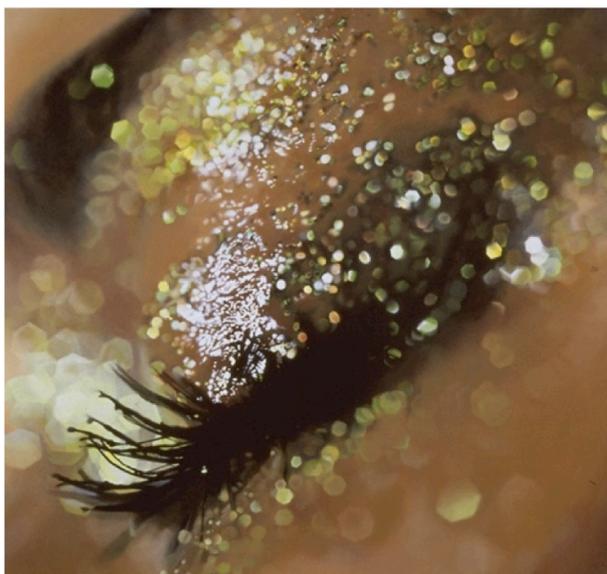
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 22, 2012



FEMMESCAPES

An exhibition featuring work from the collection of Lenore Pereira and Rich Niles curated by students in the Mills College Museum Studies Workshop

Opening Reception: Saturday, April 14, 2012, 6–8 pm

Exhibition dates: Saturdays and Sundays, April 15–May 6, 2012, 11 am–5 pm

Location: 70 South Park, San Francisco, CA, 94107

Oakland and San Francisco, CA—March 22, 2012. The Mills College Art Museum and 70 South Park announce *Femmescapes*, an exhibition showcasing work from the collection of Lenore Pereira and Rich Niles curated by students in the Mills College Museum Studies Workshop.

Lenore Pereira and Rich Niles, Bay Area collectors of artwork by contemporary women artists, have generously invited the students of the Mills Museum Studies Workshop to curate an exhibition from their collection. The all female group of students were given a unique opportunity to explore the work of an international roster of women artists. The first resulting show, *Femmescapes*, explores the relationship of a woman's place in the environment, woman as environment, and the environment as woman.

The imagery of women's bodies has historically had references to the earth and the language used to describe the female form is often identical to that used to describe agricultural land: lush, fertile, fecund, barren, etc. The work featured in *Femmescap* explores these ideas as well as the ambiguity between the body as a metaphor for land and as an actual landscape in itself. When examined closely, body parts lose their context and appear as landscapes themselves--lips as rolling hills, navels as dimpled plains. *Femmescap* also looks at the ways in which women control or alter their environment and how land becomes a canvas for female artists.

Featuring approximately 40 works, including painting, video, photography, sculpture, and works on paper, *Femmescap* presents work by Louise Bourgeois, Andrea Bowers, Jeanne Dunning, Ann Hamilton, Mary Daniel Hobson, Nina Katchadourian, Lisa Kokin, Lynda Lester-Slack, Ann Mandelbaum, Ana Mendieta, Marilyn Minter, Shirin Neshat, Chikako Okada, Marlo Pascual, Amalia Pica, Liza Ryan, Kiki Seror, Kiki Smith, Oriane Stender, Sarah Sze, Nicola Tyson, Sue Williams, and Francesca Woodman.

The Mills College Museum Studies Workshop is taught by Dr. Stephanie Hanor, Director of the Mills College Art Museum, and encompasses both the theoretical and practical study of curatorial practices. Members of the class are: Paige Azarakhsh, Rachel Levinson, Keegan Luttrell, Joann Pak, Jenny Sharaf, Bridget Stagnitto, and Anna Vanderslice.

Image: Marilyn Minter, Crisco, 2003, enamel on metal, collection of Lenore Pereira and Rich Niles, San Francisco.

About the Mills College Art Museum Founded in 1925, The Mills College Art Museum is a forum for exploring art and ideas and a laboratory for contemporary art practices. Through innovative exhibitions, programs, and collections, the museum engages and inspires the intellectual and creative life of the Mills community as well as the diverse audiences of the Bay Area and beyond. For more information, visit mcam.mills.edu.

About Mills College Nestled in the foothills of Oakland, California, Mills College is a nationally renowned, independent liberal arts college offering a dynamic progressive education that fosters leadership, social responsibility, and creativity in approximately 950 undergraduate women and more than 600 graduate women and men. The College ranks as one of the *Best 376 Colleges* in the country and one of the greenest colleges in the nation by The Princeton Review. *US News & World*

Report ranked Mills one of the top-tier regional universities in the country and lists it among the top colleges and universities in the West in the “Great Schools, Great Prices” category. For more information, visit www.mills.edu For more information and images, contact Maysoun Wazwaz at 510.430.3340 or mwazwaz@mills.edu. Museum hours are Tuesday-Sunday 11 am–4 pm and Wednesday 11 am–7:30 pm. Admission is FREE for all exhibitions and programs unless noted.

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