

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Shi Tou, *Together*, 2002, C-print, 7 3/8 x 50 inches. Collection of Mills College Art Museum.

YOU'RE SEEING LESS THAN HALF THE PICTURE

DECEMBER 5–JUNE 2, 2019

Opening Reception: Wednesday, Dec 5, 2019, 5:30-7:30PM

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You're Seeing Less Than Half the Picture explores the role artists have played in helping us understand institutional authority and how choices are made regarding what we see in art museums. Using the progressive feminist art work of the Guerrilla Girls as a touchstone, the exhibition features both contemporary and historical works from MCAM's collection that surface complex dialogues around representations of gender, race, and sexuality.

Taking its title from the 1989 Guerrilla Girls poster *You're Seeing Less Than Half the Picture Without the Vision of Women Artists and Artists of Color*, the exhibition questions the lack of diverse narratives in cultural institutions by foregrounding the work of traditionally underrepresented artists.

Some of the featured artists, such as Fred Wilson, Bonnie O'Connell, and Faith Ringgold, blur the lines between activism and art by making politically charged work that is directly engaged with the underlying power dynamics of display practices. Other works by Ruth Bernhard,

Elizabeth Ginno Winkler, and Shi Tou can be read as more covert reflections on self-determined identities and art as social commentary. Whether overtly activist or stealthily subversive, the work in the exhibition demonstrates the myriad ways artists can expose us to multiple points of view by challenging curatorial authority and reprioritizing whose work is represented in museums.

The exhibition showcases pieces from MCAM's unique holdings including works by Ruth Bernhard, Judy Chicago, Papo Colo, Imogen Cunningham, Carmen Lomas Garza, the Guerrilla Girls, Mona Hatoum, Yolanda Lopez, Sarah McEneaney, Faith Ringgold, Lorna Simpson, Shi Tou, Carrie Mae Weems, Fred Wilson, and Elizabeth Ginno Winkler, and work by Bonnie O'Connell on loan from the Special Collections at the F. W. Olin Library.

You're Seeing Less Than Half the Picture is curated by students in the Fall 2018 Museum Studies Workshop: Chloe Champion, Andrea Ortiz Galdamez, Walker Guinnee, Julianna P. Lopez, Dorothea Moerman, Amelia Ravitz-Dworkin, Cassidy Schmitt, Golnaz Shariatzadeh. It is accompanied by a digital exhibition catalogue.

**MCAM's back gallery is currently accessible by stairs only. A hardcopy of the exhibition catalogue will be available upon request and a digital version will be accessible through our website. We apologize for this barrier; this will be the final exhibition we hold in this space.*

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.

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