



NEWS RELEASE

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TUFTS UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY

Aidekman Arts Center

40R Talbot Avenue

Medford, MA 02155

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***Girl Culture* by Lauren Greenfield**

Barbara Zucker *Time Signatures*

Alex McQuilkin *Get Your Gun Up and Teenage Daydream: In Vain*

February 10 to March 27, 2005

Opening Reception: Thursday, February 10, 5:30–8:30 pm

Medford, MA – Three thematically-related exhibitions on view at the Tufts University Art Gallery from February 10 to March 27 address ideals of beauty, femininity, and role models by investigating the impact youth culture has on females both young and older. Through photography, sculpture, video, and related programs and lectures, the role of body image in contemporary society is explored.



***Girl Culture* by Lauren Greenfield**

Tisch Gallery

Lauren Greenfield's *Girl Culture* explores the daily lives and rituals of girls in American contemporary society in a photographic project of 58 color photographs and corresponding interviews. These compelling and insightful images investigate the troubling aspects of growing up female in contemporary society. "These images are about the popular culture we share and the way the culture leaves its imprint on individuals in their most public and private moments," says Greenfield. "The body has become the primary canvas on which girls express their identities, insecurities, ambitions, and struggles. It has become a palimpsest on which many of our culture's conflicting messages about femininity are written and rewritten."

American Photo named Greenfield one of the 25 most influential photographers working today. Her book, *Girl Culture*, published in December 2002 by Chronicle Books, accompanies the exhibition. This exhibition is circulated by The Stephen Cohen Gallery, Los Angeles.

The artist will lecture about her work on Friday, February 11 at 7:00 p.m. in Cohen Auditorium. Lecture sponsored by: Tufts Health Services, Tufts Women's Center, Wellesley College McNeil Program for Studies in American Art, Photographic Resource Center, and Canon, USA. **Canon**

Barbara Zucker: *Time Signatures*

Koppelman Gallery and Remis Sculpture Court

Barbara Zucker's *Time Signatures* series of floor and wall-mounted steel and hydrocal sculptures are based on wrinkles in the faces of women. The series began as a self-portrait and also as a way for the artist to come to terms with her own struggle with aging and American society's disregard of older women. When taken out of context, the fine tracery of lines on older women's faces form beautiful, abstracted patterns, which Zucker installs in groupings that surround the viewer, like the landscape.



In *Time Signatures*, Zucker asks us to question the emphasis on beauty in our youth-driven culture, and to see the evidence of a long life not as a loss, but as visible link with the forces of nature that shape and erode the landscape.

The artist has created a 25-foot high, site-specific sculpture, *Lilian's Face Flowing*, in the Remis Sculpture Court. The two-part exhibition has been organized by Amy Ingrid Schlegel, director of the Tufts University Art Gallery. An illustrated brochure with a curatorial essay accompanies the exhibition.

This project has been supported by a grant from the Artists' Resource Trust, a fund of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation.

The artist will lecture about her work on Thursday, February 10 at 5:00 pm in the Koppelman Gallery.



**Alex McQuilkin *Get Your Gun Up* and
*Teenage Daydream: In Vain***

New Media Wall

Alex McQuilkin's provocative videos explore the fictional time and space that hovers between authentic existence and cinematic fantasy. *Get Your Gun Up* explores "female machoism" and competition through the typically male lens of the Spaghetti Western film. This psychological showdown borrows from Sergio Leone's *The Good, The Bad and The Ugly*, replacing guns with sexuality. The threat of death is transformed into a conceptual death via defeat. *Teenage Daydream: In Vain* adopts the form of a music video. Fiction and reality clash violently as the protagonist struggles to hold on to an imaginary stardom.

The artist will lecture about her work on Thursday, March 17 at 6:00 pm in the Remis Sculpture Court.

Images (top to bottom): Lauren Greenfield, *Allegra, 4, plays dress-up, Malibu, California*, 1999, Silver dye bleach print, 16 x 20 inches, © Lauren Greenfield from the book *Girl Culture*, Chronicle Books, 2002; Barbara Zucker, *Lilian's Chin*, 96 x 49 x 1-1/2 inches, Steel, 2001; Alex McQuilkin, DVD still from *Teenage Daydream: In Vain*, 2002-3

The mission of the Tufts University Art Gallery is to animate the intellectual life of the greater university community through exhibitions and programs exploring new, global perspectives on art and on art discourse.

The gallery is located in the Aidekman Arts Center at Tufts University. The Gallery is fully accessible and admission is free. Hours are 11am to 5pm Tuesday through Sunday and Thursdays until 8pm. Free event parking is available in the parking lots surrounding the Aidekman Arts Center. Parking is also available in metered parking spaces on Latin Way Road and in the Dowling Hall parking garage at 419 Boston Avenue. Please visit www.tufts.edu/as/gallery for more information.



February/March Program and Event Listings

January 14, 2005

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Programs and Events—February/March 2005

Tufts University Art Gallery events are free and open to the public.

Events are held in the Aidekman Arts Center.

Thursday, February 10, 5:00 pm: Lecture by artist **Barbara Zucker** in the Koppelman Gallery

Thursday, February 10, 5:30–8:30 pm: Public Opening Reception with artists **Lauren Greenfield** and **Barbara Zucker**

Friday, February 11, 7:00–9:00 pm: Lecture and book signing by **Lauren Greenfield**, Cohen Auditorium

*Lecture sponsored by: Tufts Health Services, Tufts Women's Center, Wellesley College McNeil Program for Studies in American Art, Photographic Resource Center, and Canon, USA. **Canon***

Wednesday, February 23, 12:15 pm: Art@Lunch series: Tufts MA art history and museum studies candidate **Amy Brandt** leads a tour of *Girl Culture*

Thursday, March 3, 6:00 pm: Forum on cultural dimensions of Body Image in conjunction with *Girl Culture*
Sponsored by Tufts Health Services during Eating Disorder Awareness Week

Thursday, March 10, 6:00 pm: Introduction and screening of **Abigail Child's** *Cake and Steak* (2002–4; 20 min.)

Internationally-acclaimed independent filmmaker and School of the Museum of Fine Arts faculty Abigail Child introduces her recent film, the first part of a series of digital projections that excavate "girl training" in the legacy of home movies and post-war American suburban culture. Location: Remis Sculpture Court

Thursday, March 17, 6:00pm: Lecture and screening of short videos by artist **Alex McQuilkin**, in conjunction with her exhibition on the New Media Wall. Remis Sculpture Court.

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