

ART

Snapshot

FOTOFOCUS brings the world of photography to our doorstep.

» **A FEW YEARS AGO**, Cincinnati Art Museum curator James Crump got talking with Thomas R. Schiff about starting an arts festival devoted to photography. Schiff, a big arts patron and noted photographer, had been toying with the idea for years; this meeting became their catalyst. Within months, they recruited an impressive roster of supporters (CAC Director Raphaela Platow among them) and founded FOTOFOCUS, a nonprofit aimed at championing photography and fostering collaboration. The group's first biennial is this month with more than 70 venues and 500 artists participating. "Photography is the medium of our time," says Crump, "and it impacts all of our lives daily." So why not celebrate it here?

FOTOFOCUS encompasses a wide spectrum of work, from classic to contemporary, and also includes other forms of "lens-based art." Be on the lookout for *Cincinnati Constellation*, a collage of scanned handprints made to look like the night sky, installed in the ceiling of Findlay Market by ArtWorks and visiting artist Caleb Charland. There will also be various lectures and parties. Notable collectors David Raymond and Trevor Traina will relate tricks of their trade. Laurel Nakadate, whose work has been displayed at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, will serve as the official fall 2012 FOTOFOCUS lecturer and visiting artist. "The world of photography is coming to Cincinnati," says festival spokesperson Judith Turner-Yamamoto. "It's incredibly ambitious." To see it all, you'll need to visit more than two galleries per day, so don't dally. Here are eight shows to get you going.

—WILLIAM POWELL

For more information, visit fotofocuscincinnati.org



▲ **Image Machine: Andy Warhol and Photography** Many of Andy Warhol's most recognizable pieces—prints of Marilyn Monroe or paintings of Campbell's Soup—used photographs as source material. But only recently has Warhol been recognized for his own stark photographic work. *Contemporary Arts Center, Sept 22–Jan 30*

ALL PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY FOTOFOCUS

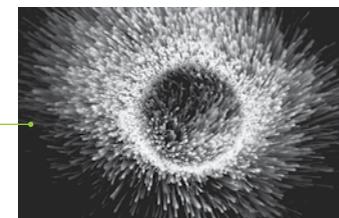
► **Tyler Shields: Controlled Chaos** One of the most talked about and controversial photographers in Los Angeles, Tyler Shields creates bold and highly edited images that often include blood, guns, violence, and sometimes Lindsay Lohan. *Miller Gallery, Oct 12–Oct 26*



◀ **Santeri Tuori: The Forest** Over a five year period, Helsinki-based artist Santeri Tuori returned again and again to the same spot on the island of Kõkar. Through photos, video, and audio, he gives viewers an immersive look at the life of the forest. *University of Cincinnati, Oct 1–Nov 1*



◀ **Laurel Nakadate: Polaroids from Stay the Same Never Change** Through more than 150 Polaroids, Nakadate follows her subjects on their personal journeys. Her work explores gender issues, such as the allure and unease that comes from the way men look at women. *The Art Academy, Oct 4–Oct 31*



◀ **Contained** Produced by Christopher Hoeting along with Tara Gordon and Tina Machise of the Emery Theatre, this exhibit features 11 large steel shipping containers, each filled by a different artist. The confined space gives viewers an intimate encounter with the photographic installations. *Grammer's, Oct 20–Nov 3*

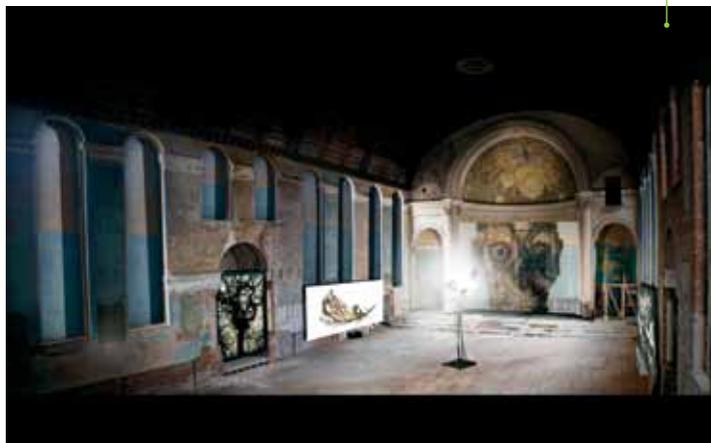
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► **Herb Ritts: L.A. Style** A master of simplicity, Herb Ritts used the bright Los Angeles sun to tease out the contrast between dark and light, creating portraits that made celebrities look like Greek gods and transformed fashion photography into art. *Cincinnati Art Museum, Oct 6–Dec 30*



▲ **Doug+Mike Starn: Gravity of Light** Conceptual artists and identical twins Doug and Mike Starn got a lot of attention with their exhibit *Big Bambú* at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art. Their installation uses an arc lamp to explore the meaning of light. *Holy Cross Church at Mt. Adams Monastery, Oct 6–Dec 30*

Star Power: Edward Steichen's Glamour Photography Just in time for the Taft Museum's 80th anniversary, an exhibit examining the life and oeuvre of Edward Steichen, whose work in fashion magazines made him the most famous (and highly compensated) photographer of the '20s and '30s. *Taft Museum of Art, Oct 12–Jan 27*

