

# FOTOFOCUS

For Immediate Release

January 24, 2012

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## **INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED PHOTOGRAPHER UTA BARTH IS SPRING 2012 FOTOFOCUS LECTURER AND VISITING ARTIST**

### **THE LIGHTBORNE LECTURE AND VISITING ARTIST SERIES RELAUNCHES AS THE FOTOFOCUS LECTURE AND VISITING ARTIST SERIES, SPONSORED BY LIGHTBORNE, INC.**

**Uta Barth Presents her Work in a Free Public Lecture Wednesday, February  
22, at 7:00 PM, Fath Auditorium, Cincinnati Art Museum**

Cincinnati, OH—FOTOFOCUS, a nonprofit organization championing photography, announces the re-launch of the Lightborne Lecture and Visiting Artist Series as the **FOTOFOCUS Lecture and Visiting Artist Series**, sponsored by Lightborne, Inc. Wednesday, February 22, at 7:00 PM, FOTOFOCUS presents acclaimed photographer Uta Barth, the spring 2012 FOTOFOCUS Lecturer and Visiting Artist, speaking about her work in a free lecture at Fath Auditorium, Cincinnati Art Museum. Reservations are not required, but early arrival is recommended. The parking

fee is \$4. Free parking is available for Cincinnati Art Museum members. A public reception will follow the lecture in the Cincinnati Art Museum's Great Hall.

FOTOFOCUS Director, Mary Ellen Goeke announced, "As we approach our first FOTOFOCUS biennial in October, Uta Barth's visit to Cincinnati affirms the collaborative relationships we have built between the academic community, cultural institutions, and our public. Inaugurated in 1996, as the Lightborne lecture series we now welcome Uta Barth as the 31<sup>st</sup> artist to participate in this important program celebrating its 16<sup>th</sup> year. Our synergistic programming reinforces FOTOFOCUS and photography's presence in the public eye."

James Crump, Cincinnati Art Museum Chief Curator and Curator of Photography, and FOTOFOCUS Co-Chair added, "Uta Barth is an artist that epitomizes how photographic practice has been folded into the larger field of art production with a particular conceptual bias. For over three decades, Barth has presented series that offer up not simply visual pleasure but pictures that confront and help to critically redefine the limitations of this medium. Cincinnati is quite fortunate to have such a leading talent visit to present her work."

Uta Barth is internationally recognized for images bordering on painterly abstraction. The artist renders blurred backgrounds, cropped frames, and the natural qualities of light to capture incidental and fleeting moments which exist almost exclusively within our periphery. With deliberate disregard for both the conventional photographic subject and the point and shoot role of the camera, Barth's work deconstructs the conventions of visual representation, calling attention to the limits of the human eye.

An explorer of the atmospheric and incidental, Barth's latest major body of work, ... *and to draw a bright white line with light* was featured in her 2011 solo exhibition at the Art Institute of Chicago. The diptych and triptych paneled photographs created over the course of a single afternoon trace a growing ribbon of light against the curtains of the artist's home, documenting glimpses of the ephemeral as it exists between two fixed points in time. They coalesce to transform observations as simple as a ray of afternoon

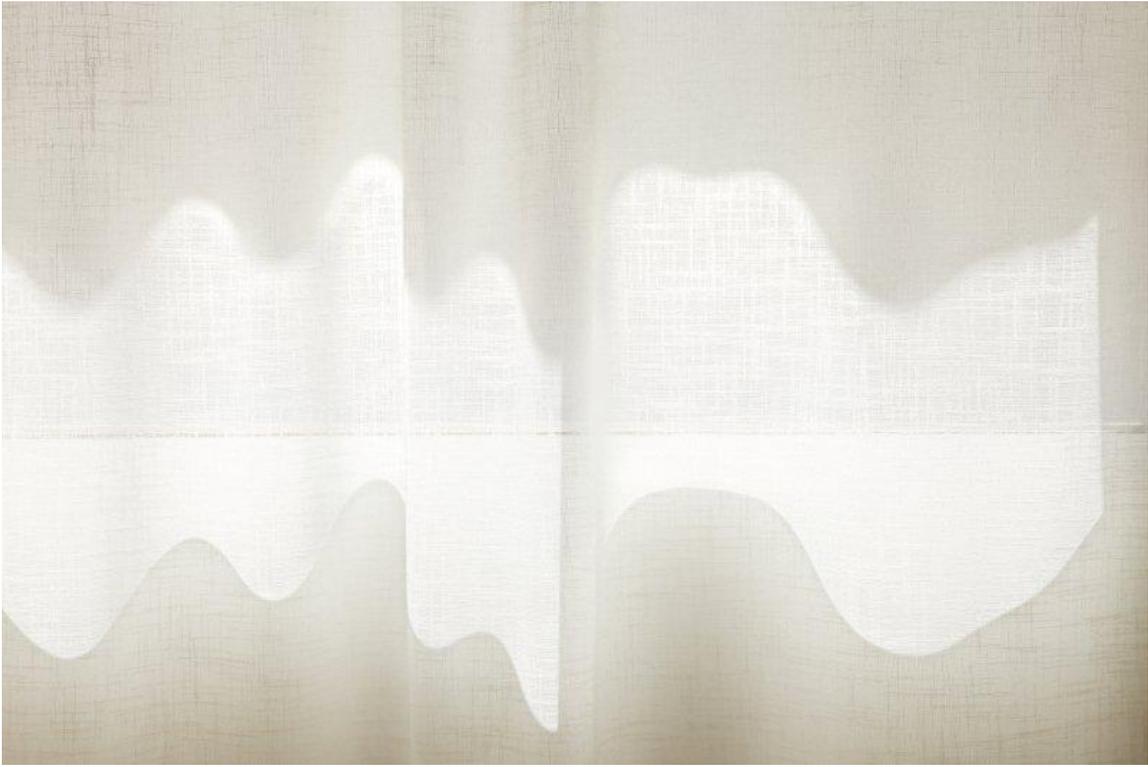
sunlight into a lyrical description of the passage of time, heightening our awareness of such subtleties and, in turn, the process of looking itself.

Barth's work is represented in numerous museum collections, including the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; The Museum of Modern Art, New York; The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York and Bilbao, Spain; The Tate Modern, London; The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; The Los Angeles County Museum of Art; The Getty Museum, Los Angeles, and The Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, among others. Recent exhibitions include *Magical Consciousness* at Arnolfini, Bristol, UK, 2011 (group); *Uta Barth* at the Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington, Seattle, 2011 (solo), and *The Artist's Museum* at The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, 2010-2011 (group). In 2010, Gregory R. Miller & Co. (New York) released the artist's major monograph publication titled *The Long Now*. In 2012, Blind Spot Books (New York) will publish a catalogue featuring Barth's work from this exhibition. Her work is represented in New York by Tanya Bonakdar Gallery and 1301PE Gallery, Los Angeles.

**FOTOFOCUS**, a nonprofit arts organization, champions the ubiquity of photography and its important role in contemporary culture. **FOTOFOCUS** recaptures the spirit of Cincinnati's legacy as an epicenter of art production and creative exchange, and seeks to revitalize that spirit for the 21st century. Acting as a catalyst for institutional collaboration and community engagement, **FOTOFOCUS** organizes a month-long biennial celebration spotlighting independently programmed exhibitions of historical and contemporary photography and lens-based art. For more information visit [www.FOTOFOCUScincinnati.org](http://www.FOTOFOCUScincinnati.org)

The **FOTOFOCUS Lecture and Visiting Artist Series**, sponsored by Lightborne Inc., and formerly known as the Lightborne Lecture Series, invites renowned photographers to Cincinnati to share their work with the public and area college students. Since its 1996 inception as a free public lecture series showcased at the Cincinnati Art Museum, the program has expanded to include an Artist Residency at the Art Academy of Cincinnati. In the fall, area students work with the visiting artist during two three-day workshops, receive one-on-one critiques, and install an exhibition of the photographer's art in the Art Academy Gallery. In the spring, an artist is invited for a three-day visit, with group and one-on-one critiques with students. To date over thirty artists have participated in the Series, including Laurie Simmons([www.lauriesimmons.net](http://www.lauriesimmons.net)), Todd Hido ([www.toddhido.com](http://www.toddhido.com)), Hank Willis Thomas ([www.hankwillisthomas.com](http://www.hankwillisthomas.com)), Gregory Crewdson, Thomas Demand ([www.thomasdemand.de](http://www.thomasdemand.de)), Joyce Tenneson ([www.tenneson.com](http://www.tenneson.com)), and Doug Aitken ([www.dougaitkenworkshop.com](http://www.dougaitkenworkshop.com)).

For a complete list of **FOTOFOCUS Lecture and Visiting Artist Series** participants visit [www.FOTOFOCUScincinnati.org](http://www.FOTOFOCUScincinnati.org)



Uta Barth, from ...and to draw a bright white line with light,2011.7 (detail),  
2011

Courtesy of the artist, Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York and 1301PE, Los Angeles