

# NEWS

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For Immediate Release

**PRESS RELEASE**

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[www.bu.edu/ART](http://www.bu.edu/ART)

## ***Vernacular Reframed***

An exploration of the everyday.

**\*\*A two-day interdisciplinary academic conference re-examining the definition of the vernacular in conjunction with the exhibition: *In the Vernacular: Everyday Photographs from the Rodger Kingston Collection*.\*\***

**November 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> at Boston University  
Hosted by the Boston University Art Gallery**

**Boston— Vernacular Reframed**, a three-day interdisciplinary conference will elaborate on the major themes explored in the exhibition *In the Vernacular: Everyday Photographs from the Rodger Kingston Collection* being held concurrently at the Boston University Art Gallery from November 5, 2004 – January 23, 2005. Conference panelists will re-examine the definition of vernacular photography as we bring together traditional interpretations with more contemporary reappraisals of the medium. The conference will explore the contexts of the social practice within which photographs have been produced and consumed through the following topics: approaches to the vernacular, a vernacular history of photography, vernacular pictures and practices, and the vernacular collector. **Vernacular Reframed** hopes to confront the current crisis in the history of photography provoked by vernacular images. In fact, one of the goals of the exhibition and corresponding conference is to analyze and problematize the history of vernacular images. This new area of study is bringing the world's most renowned scholars to Boston University to shape the debate on the vernacular. Confirmed panelists include:

- **Ross Barrett**, Exhibition Co-Curator and Adelson Fellow in American Art, Art History Department, Boston University.
- **Geoffrey Batchen**, Professor, PhD Program in Art History, Graduate Center, City University of New York.
- **A.D. Coleman**, Photography Historian/Critic, The Photography Criticism Cyber Archive.

- **Merry Foresta**, Senior Curator of Photography, Department of Photography, Smithsonian Institution.
- **William Hunt**, Director of Photography, Ricco/Maresca Gallery, New York, NY.
- **John Ibson**, Professor of American Studies, American Studies Department, California State University, Fullerton.
- **Daile Kaplan**, Director of Photography, Department of Photography, Swann Galleries, New York, NY.
- **Rodger Kingston**, Collector, Belmont, MA.
- **Stacey McCarroll**, Director & Curator, Boston University Art Gallery, Boston, MA.
- **Jonathan C. Smith**, Assistant Professor, Department of American Studies, Saint Louis University.
- **Alan Trachtenberg**, Professor, American Studies Department, Yale University.
- **John Michael Vlach**, Professor of American Studies and Anthropology, American Studies Department, George Washington University.
- **Stephen White**, Collector, Studio City, CA.

**For more information and registration, please  
visit our website after August 15, 2004.  
[www.bu.edu/art](http://www.bu.edu/art)**

## **IMAGES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**

Please call the gallery or visit the BU Art Gallery website at [www.bu.edu/ART](http://www.bu.edu/ART) for events and programming information during the season. All exhibitions and events are free to the public.

### **Information**

Boston University Art Gallery  
855 Commonwealth Avenue  
Boston, MA 02215  
TEL (617) 353-3329  
FAX (617) 353-4509

Gallery Hours  
Tuesday-Friday 10am –5pm  
Saturday & Sunday 1 – 5 pm

[www.bu.edu/ART](http://www.bu.edu/ART)

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The **Boston University Art Gallery** (BUAG) is a non-profit art gallery geared toward an interdisciplinary interpretation of art, and committed to a culturally inclusive viewpoint that expands the boundaries of the museum. Exhibitions focus on international, national and regional art developments chiefly in the 20<sup>th</sup> century; seek to present the cultural and historical context of art, and to acknowledge the artistic contributions of under-recognized sectors of the population. BUAG is located at 855 Commonwealth Avenue, inside the College of Fine Arts at Boston University (BU West T stop on the B Green Line).

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