

2009 GRETCHEN HUPFEL SYMPOSIUM  
 The American Scene: What Is American  
 about Contemporary American Art?  
 April 17 & 18, 2009

DELAWARE CENTER FOR THE CONTEMPORARY ARTS  
 200 S. Madison Street, Wilmington, DE 19801 • www.thedcca.org • 302-656-6466



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**30 years**  
 A forum for new ideas, new art  
**DCCA**  
 DELAWARE CENTER FOR THE CONTEMPORARY ARTS  
 200 S. Madison Street, Wilmington, DE 19801  
 302-656-6466 www.thedcca.org

**Hours:**  
 Monday - Closed  
 Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday - 10 am - 5 pm  
 Wednesday, Sunday - noon - 5 pm  
**Admission:** Always Free.

This symposium is supported by the Gretchen Hupfel Endowment Fund. This program is also partially funded by the Delaware Humanities Forum, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Additional support is provided by the University Museums of the University of Delaware.

DCCA exhibitions and programs are made possible, in part, through individual contributions, members' support, and major grants from AstraZeneca, Bank of America, JPMorgan Chase Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency dedicated to nurturing and supporting the arts in Delaware.



**THE AMERICAN SCENE: WHAT IS AMERICAN ABOUT CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN ART?**

The symposium complements the DCCA exhibition, *The American Scene*, which explores contemporary American life and culture through the art of the early 21st century. The questions raised will address the notions of what it means to be American. Who are we? How do we define ourselves? What is unique about our perspective and the means we use to express it? How is this part of a national and increasingly global culture? Is there something that is distinctly American or are we a nation now so diverse that we can only speak of American cultures rather than American culture? The symposium explores the topic elaborated upon by John Updike, the 2008 National Endowment for the Humanities Jefferson Lecturer, in his lecture, *What Is American in American Art?*, delivered by the late author in Washington, DC, in March 2008.

**BIOGRAPHIES**

**Robert Anderson** has taught college level drawing, painting, and design, and has produced instructional videotapes on photorealism and color theory. He is the co-author of *Art of the Dot* (1985) and the recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

**Moe Brooker** is Professor at Moore College of Art and Design. His work belongs in a number of collections, including the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts Museum, and the Cleveland Museum of Art.

**Julian Cox** joined the High Museum of Art in Atlanta as the Curator of Photography in 2005. Cox came from the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles where he served as Associate Curator in the Department of Photographs. He is the author of *Road to Freedom: Photographs of the Civil Rights Movement, 1956-1968* (2008), *Harry Callahan: Eleanor* (2007), *Spirit into Matter: The Photographs of Edmund Teske* (2004), and *Timekeeper: The Photographs of Anthony Friedkin* (2004).

**Tony Shore** is Professor at the Maryland Institute College of Art. He was awarded the 2007 Janet and Walter Sondheim Prize and was a recipient of one of the 2005 Bethesda Painting Awards. Shore also received two Individual Artist Awards from the Maryland State Arts Council.

**Nancy Siegel** is Associate Professor of Art History at Towson University. Siegel is also the curatorial advisor for the Thomas Cole National Historic Site. Her recent books include *Within the Landscape: Essays on Nineteenth-Century American Art and Culture* (2005) and *Along the Juniata: Thomas Cole and the Dissemination of American Landscape Imagery* (2003).

**Roberta K. Tarbell** is Visiting Scholar at the Center for American Art, Philadelphia Museum of Art; Associate Professor of Art History and Director of Museum Studies at Rutgers University, Camden; and Adjunct Associate Professor for the Winterthur Museum/University of Delaware Programs in Art Conservation. She has received postdoctoral fellowships from the Smithsonian Institution and the National Endowment for the Humanities and has been guest curator for exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art and the Smithsonian American Art Museum, among other venues.

Please visit these related exhibitions:  
**University Museums, University of Delaware**, Newark, DE, www.udel.edu/museums

**Landscape Today: 5 Perspectives**  
 University Gallery, Old College  
 March 18 - April 26, 2009

**Jacob Lawrence in Print 1963-2000**  
 Mechanical Hall  
 February 3 - May 20, 2009

**ABOUT THE GRETCHEN HUPFEL ENDOWMENT FUND**

*Gretchen Hupfel, a conceptually oriented artist born in Wilmington, Delaware, earned her BA in Art from Brown University and her MFA from the University of Delaware. She was a faculty member at the Kansas City Art Institute and at the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia. Gretchen exhibited extensively and worked in different media and disciplines. Her work was featured in a solo show at the DCCA in 2005/2006 in an exhibition titled Time Spent. Gretchen passed away in 2002 at the age of thirty-nine. For those who remember Gretchen, this named endowment, made possible by a generous friend of the Hupfel family, furthers the legacy of a passionate and remarkably talented artist and not only commemorates her death, but celebrates her life.*

**FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2009**

**6 pm Cocktail Reception**  
 Introduction: Maxine Gaiber, Executive Director

**7 pm**  
**Visions of America:**  
**Thoughts on Definition and Identity**

Julian Cox will chiefly discuss photographic images of the people and places of the United States, with attention to what defines an American viewpoint and voice.

Keynote Speaker: Julian Cox

**SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2009**

**8:30 am Continental Breakfast**  
 Introduction: Carina Evangelista, Gretchen Hupfel Curator of Contemporary Art

**9 am**  
**Is There No Place Like Home?**  
**Themes of Nationalism in American Landscape Painting**

Nancy Siegel will address place and national identity in American landscape painting.

Speaker: Nancy Siegel, Ph.D.

**10:30 am**  
**From Ashcans to Pop Icons:**  
**The Emergence of Modern Interpretations of American People and Places**

Roberta Tarbell will discuss how both early twentieth-century artists and the artists included in *The American Scene* integrate and appropriate avant-garde international cultural traditions while simultaneously creating uniquely personal and American works.

Speaker: Roberta K. Tarbell, Ph.D.

**12 pm Lunch**

**1:30-3 pm**  
**On Being an "American" Artist**

Three artists who have recently exhibited or are currently exhibiting their work at the DCCA discuss the "American" component in their own art.

Artist Panel: Robert Anderson, Moe Brooker, and Tony Shore

Moderator: J. Susan Isaacs, Ph.D., Adjunct Curator

**REGISTRATION**

Register online at:  
[www.thedcca.org/programsadult.html](http://www.thedcca.org/programsadult.html)

Or complete this form and mail to:

**Symposium**  
**DCCA**  
**200 South Madison Street**  
**Wilmington, DE 19801**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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Please indicate your registration choices:

	DCCA Members	Future Members	Student	UD Student
Entire Symposium	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> FREE
Friday Evening	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$5	<input type="checkbox"/> FREE
Saturday Only	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$5	<input type="checkbox"/> FREE
Boxed Lunch (not included in symposium fee)				<input type="checkbox"/> \$15
Give to the Gretchen Hupfel Endowment Fund				\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>				\$ _____

Type of Payment (please indicate):  
 Visa  MasterCard  Check

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cardholder's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Call 302-656-6466 ext. 7101

IMAGE: Robert Anderson, *Western Story* (detail), 2009  
 Acrylic on canvas, 46" x 54"