



Rochester Contemporary Art Center

137 East Avenue
Rochester, NY 14604
585.461.2222

hours: Wed – Sun 1-5 pm / Fri 1-10pm
admission: \$1 / free for members



NEWS RELEASE

for more information contact:

Bleu Cease

(585) 461.2222

bleu@rochestercontemporary.org

Makers & Mentors

new and recent collages, paintings and photographs by:

Carl Chiarenza (Rochester), Lisa Bradley (New York), Bruno Chalifour (Rochester), David W. Haas (Allentown, PA)
February 6 – March 16, 2014

(12/20/2013) **Rochester, NY** Rochester Contemporary Art Center is pleased to announce *Makers & Mentors*, a new exhibition celebrating the artwork and influence of one of the region's most well-known and accomplished artists: Carl Chiarenza. In addition to his successful career as an exhibiting artist, Chiarenza taught Art History and has mentored many other artists. Joining Chiarenza in *Makers & Mentors* are three accomplished artists who have been influenced by Chiarenza in different ways: Lisa Bradley (New York), Bruno Chalifour (Rochester), David Haas (Allentown, PA). The exhibition will premier Chiarenza's new series of one-of-a-kind collages. In a generous statement of support for RoCo, Chiarenza will offer his new works at reduced prices and **all proceeds will benefit The Future Fund**, The Art Center's first-ever Capital Campaign.

Carl Chiarenza is an internationally renowned abstract photographer. As the first person in the USA to receive a PhD in the History of Photography, Chiarenza has been an important figure in the Boston, New York and Rochester art communities for over fifty years. His influence on the field of art photography has been significant and Chiarenza's photographs can be found in several monographs and many photographic history texts. Chiarenza's idiosyncratic use of unlikely materials and his development of an unusual visual language have made his work uniquely recognizable. In a departure from his typical working methods, *Makers & Mentors* will feature a new, never-exhibited series of actual collages.

Chiarenza's work has been shown in many exhibitions around the world including solo exhibitions at the High Museum in Atlanta, Minneapolis Institute of Fine Arts, George Eastman House, The Mead Museum of Art, The Tampa Museum of Art, International Center of Photography (New York, NY) and The Cleveland Museum of Art. His work is represented in the collections of over 50 museums including The Getty Museum, The Smithsonian American Art Museum (Washington DC), Philadelphia Museum of Art, The Museum of Modern Art (NYC) The Art Institute of Chicago, The Bibliotheque Nationale (Paris), and The Kiyosato Museum of Photographic Arts (Japan). *Makers & Mentors* will also feature a new video interview with Chiarenza about his artwork, influences and role as a mentor.

Lisa Bradley is an established and celebrated abstract painter who has been actively working and exhibiting in New York City for many years. Bradley studied the History of Photography with Chiarenza during her time at Boston University. Bradley's artwork has been exhibited in group and solo exhibitions in the U.S. and internationally, including the Hollis Taggart Gallery and E.M. Donahue Gallery in New York, Kaj Forblom Gallery in Helsinki, Finland, as well as numerous museums across America including the New Orleans Museum of Art, Delaware Art Museum, Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art, Weisman Art Museum and Brenau University Galleries. She is prominently featured in the film *Herb & Dorothy 50x50* about the storied art collectors Herb and Dorothy Vogel. Bradley is currently represented by the Hollis Taggart Gallery of New York. *Makers & Mentors* features a selection of her recent large-scale oil paintings and works on paper.

Bruno Chalifour is a photographer, writer, and educator. Born in France, Bruno received an MFA from The University of Buffalo and now lives in Rochester. A significant figure in the Rochester art community, Chalifour has held various teaching positions, and he is a tireless advocate for the thoughtful consideration of the photographic medium. Chalifour and Chiarenza have had a long-running, informal exchange about each other's work and the field of photography. His work has been included in exhibitions at the *George Eastman House*, *Center at High Falls* and *The Williams Gallery* as well as many others. *Makers & Mentors* includes selected images, diptychs and triptychs from Chalifour's major, ongoing project related to the landscape of Mendon Ponds park in Rochester, NY.

David W. Haas is a landscape and documentary photographer, educator and master photographic printer. Haas received an MFA from The University of Delaware. David's work has been exhibited at The University of the Arts in Philadelphia, PA and the National Building Museum in Washington DC. Photos by Haas are included in the collections of The Philadelphia Museum of Art, The Library of Congress, and The Museum of Contemporary Photography, among others. His new work, exhibited here for the first time, explores abstraction in obvious and commonplace environments.

In its 7th year, RoCo's *Makers & Mentors* exhibition series furthers a dialog about the importance of art education in the Central / Western NY Region; and highlights an established and influential artist based in the area.

Opening Reception: February 6, 6-9pm

Artists' Talk: Saturday, February 8 @ 1pm

First Fridays: February 7 & March 7, 6-10pm

Rochester Contemporary Art Center (RoCo) is a venue for the exchange of ideas and a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) that was founded in 1977. As a center for thoughtful contemporary art, RoCo provides unique encounters for audiences and extraordinary opportunities for artists.