

Mills College  
5000 MacArthur Blvd.  
Oakland, CA 94613  
www.mills.edu

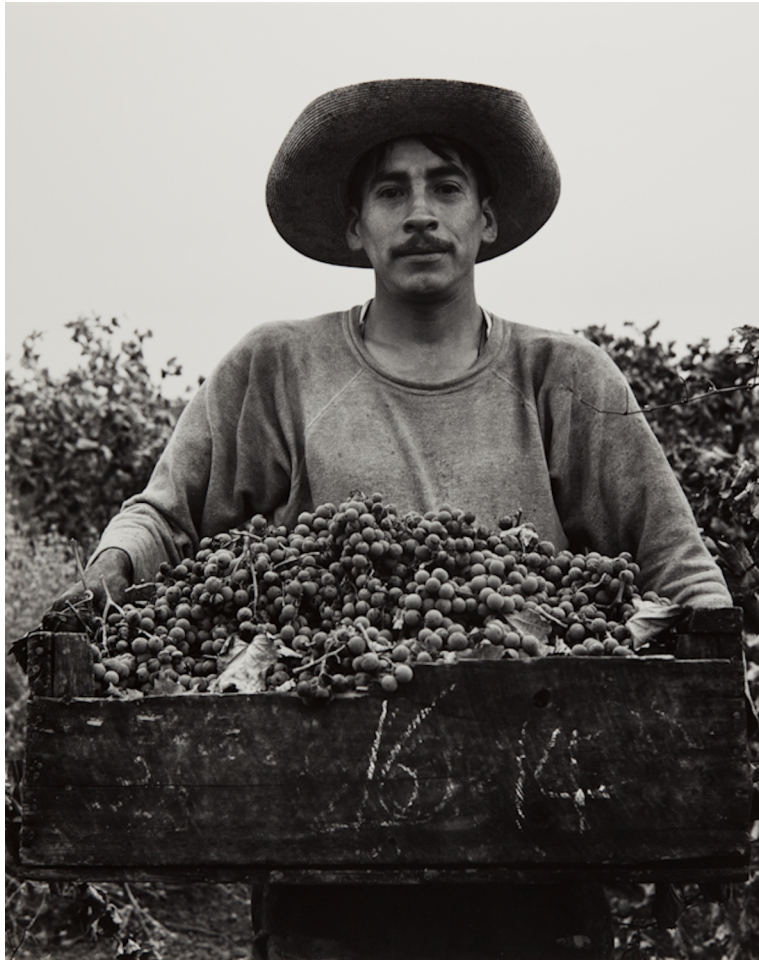
# MILLS

## PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Jayna Swartzman-Brosky  
Mills College Art Museum, Program Director  
(510) 430-3340 or [Jswartzmanbrosky@mills.edu](mailto:Jswartzmanbrosky@mills.edu)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 26, 2016



Pirkle Jones, *Grape Picker, Berryessa Valley, California*, 1956, gelatin silver print. Courtesy of Mills College Art Museum.

## MOMENTS OF IMPACT

November 30, 2016—May 28, 2017 \*

Opening Reception: Wednesday, November 30, 2016 | 4:00-5:00 pm

**Oakland, CA—October 26, 2016** Featuring works from the Mills College Art Museum's collection, *Moments of Impact* examines ideas around environmental and social justice. The exhibition includes both contemporary and historical works in a wide range of media and

explores the ability of objects and artists to evoke questions around cultural appropriation, inequality, and agency.

The exhibition examines moments of cultural impact from the environmental and cultural domination of indigenous people and their lands to the continued struggle for civil rights in the United States. Some of the featured artists, such as Carrie Mae Weems, Yolanda Lopez, and Rashid Johnson, blur the lines between activism and art by making politically charged work that is directly engaged in the issues of our time. Other works by photographers Robert Heinecken and Iain Baxter can be seen as more abstract reflections on the erasure of identity.

Environmental and social extinction is explicitly addressed in Clayton David Pinkerton's anti-nuclear war poster while the works of Kathryn Spence, Stephanie Syjuco, and Pae White illuminate the tenuous juncture between humans and nature. Whether overtly activist or not, art can play a powerful role in helping us understand such issues as the extinction of species, water rights, e-waste, and the histories of land usage. *Moments of Impact* demonstrates the myriad ways art can help build awareness—the first critical step in changing our collective story from one that exploits and destroys to one that coexists, nurtures, and values.

The exhibition showcases MCAM's unique holdings, including works by Iain Baxter, The Bruce High Quality Foundation, John Cage, William Alexander Coulter, Julian Greenwell, Robert Heinecken, Rashid Johnson, Pirkle Jones, Yolanda Lopez, Eleanor Milder, Roi Partridge, Clayton David Pinkerton, Faith Ringgold, Kathryn Spence, Stephanie Syjuco, Carrie Mae Weems, and Pae White.

*Moments of Impact* is curated by Mills students Marilyn Claes, Lily Drabkin-Hoover, Sarah Hart, Zana Ito, Elizabeth Martin, and Lena Toney, and is accompanied by a digital exhibition catalogue.

\*MCAM's Back Gallery is currently accessible by stairs only. A hardcopy of the exhibition catalogue will be available upon request and a digital version will be accessible through our website. We apologize for this hindrance.

### **About the Mills College Art Museum**

Founded in 1925, The Mills College Art Museum is a forum for exploring art and ideas and a laboratory for contemporary art practices. Through innovative exhibitions, programs, and collections, the museum engages and inspires the intellectual and creative life of the Mills community as well as the diverse audiences of the Bay Area and beyond. [mcam.mills.edu](http://mcam.mills.edu)

Museum hours are Tuesday-Sunday 11:00 am-4:00 pm and Wednesday 11:00 am-7:30 pm. Admission is FREE for all exhibitions and programs unless noted.

### **Hi-res images available upon request:**

1. Thurgood in the Hour of Chaos [from the Exit Art Print Portfolio, America, America], Rashid Johnson, 2009, photo lithograph. Courtesy Mills College Art Museum.

Mills College  
5000 MacArthur Blvd.  
Oakland, CA 94613  
www.mills.edu

# MILLS

2. Women's Work I Never Done, Yolanda Lopez, 1995, silkscreen on paper. Courtesy Mills College Art Museum.

3. War Poster — Oops!— Group Commentary, Clayton David Pinkerton, 1968, lithograph on paper. Courtesy of Mills College Art Museum.

4. Hawaiian Volcano, Julian Greenwell, ca. 1930s, watercolor on heavy paper. Courtesy of Mills College Art Museum.

5. Multiple: Five Black Nesting Bowls, Pae White, 2009, hand harvested clay embedded with cattails, Raku-fired using resinous. Courtesy of Mills College Art Museum.

###