

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
October 1990

NEW PHOTOGRAPHY 6

October 18, 1990 - January 8, 1991

The Museum of Modern Art's annual NEW PHOTOGRAPHY series continues this fall with an exhibition of recent work by three contemporary American photographers: Paul D'Amato, Carl Pope, and JoAnn Verburg. Organized by John Szarkowski, director of the Department of Photography, NEW PHOTOGRAPHY 6 is on view from October 18, 1990, through January 8, 1991. The exhibition presents twenty-one works that focus on the human condition through single or grouped portraits of urban children, the homeless, and family members.

Since 1986 the NEW PHOTOGRAPHY series has been supported by Springs Industries, Inc. and is part of the Springs of Achievement Series on the Art of Photography at The Museum of Modern Art.

For the past three years, Paul D'Amato has photographed working-class children and teenagers in urban America, including several in a Hispanic neighborhood in Chicago. His intense color portraits have both the candid immediacy that captures a particular moment in his subjects' lives, and the aesthetic distance that comes with formal rigor. D'Amato received his B.A. from Reed College in 1980 and his M.F.A. from Yale in 1985. He has worked as an architectural draftsman and photographer, has taught photography at Chicago's Columbia College, and currently teaches at The Portland School of Art in Maine.

Over the past ten years, Carl Pope has experimented with a number of photographic techniques, such as using a toy camera or printing on dyed

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papers, to evoke various moods. The photographs in this exhibition were selected from the series *Homeless* (1989), and include *Men, Women, Children*, an assemblage of twelve large, tightly shot images of the faces and shelters of Indianapolis's homeless population. The raw, unfinished quality of his prints, which are stapled to the wall, is designed to act as a metaphor for the disregard with which society has treated his subjects. Carl Pope studied photography at Southern Illinois University and is a working photographer in Indianapolis.

Minneapolis photographer JoAnn Verburg's work consists primarily of large color photographs of friends and family members engaged in activities so subtle as to verge on inactivity. Sometimes she groups the portraits according to social relationships or gestures; a triptych of her husband, for example, reveals a barely perceptible change in expression. Verburg studied sociology at Ohio Wesleyan University and photography at the Rochester Institute of Technology. She later served as both the coordinator and one of the photographers for the Rephotographic Survey Project (1977-79), which endeavored to rephotograph the sites of over 120 nineteenth-century landscape photographs. Verburg's work was first acquired by the Department of Photography in 1983 and has been included in two previous group exhibitions at the Museum.

The Museum's NEW PHOTOGRAPHY series is devoted to recent work of contemporary photographers who are not yet widely known.

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For further information or photographic materials, contact the Department of Public Information, 212/708-9750.