

Advance press release

BACK to BACK Shows at SAC in JUNE will feature Virginia photographers and Lord Fairfax Community College art faculty

**Opening reception for both shows: Friday, June 2, 6-9 p.m.
Gallery hours: Tuesday-Thursday 11-2; Friday and Saturday 11-3**

***Shenandoah Photography III: New Directions* An Invitational Exhibition Featuring Five Virginia Photographers**

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Shenandoah Photography: New Directions III opens on Friday, June 2 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Shenandoah Arts Council Gallery, 811 South Loudoun Street, Winchester, Virginia. The exhibition continues through Saturday, July 1. Juried by Erin Donovan and Ian Zuckerman, students at Shenandoah University and James Madison University, respectively, the exhibition will feature thematic sequences of work by five Virginia photographers: Ting-Yu Chen of Winchester ("Surreality"), Catherine D. Johnson of Richmond ("A Bridge Hidden by the Fog"), Maribeth Nolde of Mount Sidney ("In Celebration of Women"), Michael Preble of Norfolk ("Other Views—Venice"), and Mary Louise Ravese of Waterford ("Flowers").

Shenandoah Photography: New Directions was conceived by Geraldine Kiefer, assistant professor of art history at Shenandoah University, to feature ideas and investigations in contemporary photography. The first "new directions" show was held at SAC in June 2004. The title and premise specify thoughtful and meditative bodies of work, rather than singular or visually overwhelming "blockbuster" images. The overall goals of "New Directions" are three: first, that photography has a strong foundation in communication; secondly, that photography carries strong visual as well as verbal messages; and thirdly, that these messages can be appreciated in a variety of ways—as social statements, as aesthetic constructs, as technique and craft, and as experiments in the burgeoning field of digital art.

The themes of *New Directions III* range from nature to architectural photography, from regional environments to imaginative spaces, from personal to interpersonal worlds, and from landscape to portraiture. "Our decisions for participants were based on composition, ability to present a thematic body of work and overall technique," Erin Donovan stated. "The

show will be eclectic in style and strong in thematic representation," Ian Zuckerman said. "There are refreshing variations and I look forward to seeing the pieces together."

Whereas digital color prints will provide the "continuo" of the show, different sizes, mountings and presentations—both two-and three-dimensional—will provide visual interest and variety. Each photographer's work will be accompanied by a framed, one-page artist statement and checklist. A gallery brochure will be available for visitors to consult while viewing the exhibition.

Lord Fairfax Community College Faculty Show: Janet Brome, Ann Currie, Barbara Heile, Christopher Stephens and Robin Teas

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The Lord Fairfax Community College Faculty Show will be on display at the Shenandoah Arts Council Kalbian-Harris Gallery from June 2 to July 1, 2006. Artists include Janet Brome, adjunct professor of painting, Middletown campus; Ann Currie, associate professor of painting, drawing and mixed media, Middletown campus; Barbara Heile, adjunct professor of drawing and painting, Warrenton campus; Christopher Stephens, adjunct professor of drawing and painting, Middletown campus; and Robin Teas, adjunct professor of ceramics, Middletown campus. Following the Lord Fairfax/Shenandoah University Juried Student Art Show, this exhibition celebrates new collaborative ventures between the members of the art faculty of both institutions.
