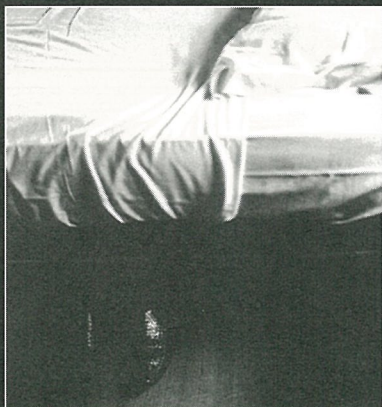
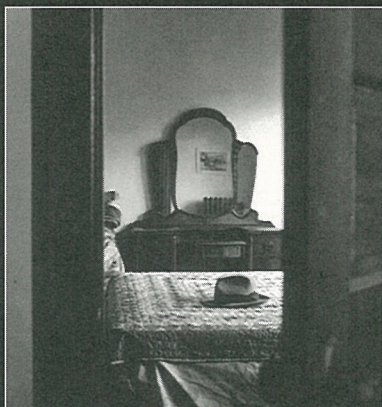


Difficult Viewing

Unsafe Subjects in Recent American Art



CARRIE MAE WEEMS, SEA ISLAND SERIES, 1992
(HAT ON BED/SHOES UNDER BED)
TWO 20X20" SILVER PRINT PHOTOGRAPHS
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"Unsafe subjects" are topics often referred to as "unmentionables," at least those which some would prefer not discussed—certainly not in polite company, or not with people whose views are different from one's own. In certain strains of art, we have long seen a tendency to push the parameters of discrete discussion, and to present points of view discordant with prevailing moral, political, religious and ethical attitudes. In the last two decades, in particular, we have seen artists, historians, magazines and museums embrace a great deal of art addressing subjects infrequently aired in words, much less presented in images.

Examining works by Robert Colescott, Karen Finley, Bob Flanagan, Felix Gonzalez-Torres, Lyle Ashton Harris, Barbara Kruger, Frank Moore, Allison Saar, Carrie Mae Weems, Brian Weil, Sue Williams, David Wojnarowicz and others, this talk will attempt to fathom the seriousness and purpose of their confrontive, combative, rarely subtle, often angry art.

Philip Yenawine

George A. Miller Endowment Scholar and Partner, Development Through Art, Boston and New York

March 27, 1996

Wednesday 8:00 pm

Tryon Festival Theatre

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts

500 South Goodwin Avenue, Urbana

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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Or call the Miller Events Lines at 333-1118