

Redefining Documentary Photography

One exhibition slated for the MHC Museum of Art this fall is World Documents, which brings together the work and ideas of important, thoughtful, and eloquent contemporary photographers.

Presenting their work as competing approaches to the practice of documentary photography, it places their projects in a global setting and meditates on the possibilities and limitations facing the socially concerned photographer today.

The exhibition represents different generations concerned with different parts of the world that understand the

role of the camera and photographic technology in strikingly varied ways. They are confronted by social and cultural changes wrought by immigration and migration, postcolonialism, ethnic nationalisms, and global conflict.

They are also aware of the social and activist legacy of documentary photography, and they each propose new purposes and distinct styles for the photographic document. As a group, they redefine the role documentary photography can serve today. The exhibition runs September 2–December 18.

