

Phoenix Art Museum

News Release

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Here and Abroad: Photographs by David Taylor explores change along US-Mexico border
New exhibition uncovers the intersection between political, social and natural boundaries in the region

PHOENIX (May 24, 2016) – Beginning May 28, 2016, Phoenix art Museum will present the new exhibition *Here and Abroad: Photographs by David Taylor*, a candid examination of the US-Mexico border, as seen through nearly 300 photographs taken by the Arizona-based artist during a period of rapid change along the border. The exhibition, on view through October 16, offers a rare glimpse into this storied region, exploring the compelling geography between two nations, a zone that is the subject of extensive national discourse and regional tumult.

“We are excited to bring compelling work by Arizona-based photographer David Taylor to our community,” said Amada Cruz, the Museum’s Sybil Harrington Director. “We believe it’s important to feature work that creates bridges within our community that enable all of us to expand our perspectives, to understand more about ourselves and our regional heritage.”

The exhibition includes photographs of the 276 monuments that delineate the border between Mexico and the United States taken between 2007 and 2010, documenting each of the obelisks installed by the International Boundary Commission following the Mexican/American War. In the process of Taylor’s work, and as tensions in the increasingly-politicized grew, Taylor became familiar with the region, including the physical terrain, shifting politics, and human dynamics. He undertook an extensive survey, one that compared and contrasted the documentation conducted by Boundary Commission photographer D.R. Payne between 1891 and 1895.

Here and Abroad: Photographs by David Taylor includes the full portfolio of monument photographs, installed in numerical order, to form a grid. It also features recent photographs that complement and expand upon the artist’s documentation of the monuments. Many of these pictures—some of them quite large—were made in the last few of years and enrich the story of Taylor’s experience. Primarily made in Tijuana, these new images include a combination of expansive landscape views as well as people and interiors. They reveal a space that is simultaneously foreign and familiar, much like the border itself.

Here and Abroad: Photographs by David Taylor is organized by Phoenix Art Museum and the Center for Creative Photography in Tucson and is made possible by InFocus, a support organization of Phoenix Art Museum along with additional support from Snell & Wilmer, LLC. The exhibition is on view in the Norton Family Photography Gallery beginning May 28 through October 16. The exhibition is included in the Museum’s general admission, and is free to all visitors during First Fridays, free

Wednesday evenings, and Discount Tire Free Family Second Sundays. The exhibition is free for all Museum Members.

About David Taylor

David Taylor graduated with a BFA from The School of the Museum of Fine Arts and Tufts University in 1989. In 1994, he earned an MFA from the University of Oregon. Taylor's work has been exhibited in institutions across the nation, among them The Nevada Museum of Art, SITE Santa Fe, Museum of Contemporary Photography at Columbia College, The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum. His images can be found in the permanent collections of The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Fidelity Investments, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, the Museum of Contemporary Photography; and the New Mexico Museum of Art. Taylor's work has been featured in *The New Yorker* blog, *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *Orion Magazine*, *PREFIX PHOTO*, *Fraction Magazine* and the Mexico/Latin America Edition of *Esquire Magazine*, among others. In 2010, Taylor's *Working the Line* was published by Radius Books and has since received multiple best book and design excellence awards.

About Phoenix Art Museum

Phoenix Art Museum has provided access to visual arts and educational programs in Arizona for more than 50 years and is the largest art museum in the Southwestern United States. In addition to an annual calendar of special exhibitions, Phoenix Art Museum's permanent collection galleries are drawn from more than 18,000 objects of modern and contemporary art, fashion design, and photography, as well as American, Asian, Latin American, and European art. Each month, the Museum hosts a wide variety of public programs, including lectures, performances, tours, workshops, and film screenings designed for audiences of all ages to enjoy.

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