



Alec Soth

SHAPESHIFTING CONTEMPORARY MASCULINITIES

VOLUME I

Alec Soth
Robyn O'Neil
Sara Greenberger
Rafferty
Hank Willis Thomas
Marcella Hackbardt

The timing of SHAPESHIFTING is somewhat serendipitous as contemporary masculinity and adulthood have been major topics in the news this year primarily because Millennials (roughly defined as ages 18-33) are taking about a decade longer than previous generations to arrive at traditional markers of adulthood. There are a variety of reasons for this shift: increased life expectancy, the economy, and changing expectations about gender roles, to name just a few. Unfortunately, this change is usually portrayed in negative terms, particularly in relation to young men, and most news reports leave out positive Millennial traits such as optimism and egalitarianism.

VOLUME II

Kris Knight
Michael Scoggins
Weston Ullberg
Fall On Your Sword
Brooks Dierdorff

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to thank Angie Bos, Associate Professor of Political Science, for setting this project in motion last year when she asked if the CWAM had any exhibition ideas that might support a political psychology symposium on gender that she was organizing. Because I had already started a blog on artists investigating masculinity, it was an easy decision to move forward with what became SHAPESHIFTING.

A steering committee met to advise on this exhibition, and I would like to thank the following for their expertise and guidance: Angie Bos; Nancy Grace, Director, Center for Diversity and Global Engagement and Professor of English; Scott McLellan '15, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Major; and Ryan Ozar, Associate Director of Internships/APEX. Additionally, Doug McGlumphy, CWAM Preparator/Collections Manager contributed to the genesis of the exhibition premise, provided advice throughout and, as always, designed a sensitive installation. I would also like to thank several CWAM gallery attendants for their contributions to this project; Robin Klaus '16, Art History, for her outstanding editing skills; and Bjorn Olsen '15, Studio Art, and James Parker '15, Art History, who enthusiastically participated in the Roundtable event and contributed Students Respond texts to the exhibition. We are also grateful to Amber Kempthorn, Visiting Assistant Professor of Art, her Intermediate and Advanced Painting class, and Nancy Grace's First Year Seminar for providing Faculty/Students Respond contributions. (Please note that this two-part exhibition brochure and all faculty/student contributions are available free on the CWAM's website.)

Finally, we congratulate and applaud the artists, galleries, and collectors who so graciously participated in SHAPESHIFTING. True to form, these ten artists are attuned to the cultural zeitgeist, and we thank them for their valuable insights, critical eye, and important contributions.

Cover:
Brooks Dierdorff
Cougar (from
the Trophy series),
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Kitty McManus Zurko, Director/Curator
The College of Wooster Art Museum

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