

NEWS RELEASE



Montclair Art Museum

3 South Mountain Ave., Montclair, NJ 07042
973-746-5555 | montclairartmuseum.org

Digital Images and Related Information Available for
Download at montclairartmuseum.org/press

For Immediate Release

Media Contacts

Michael Gillespie, 973-259-5134
mgillespie@montclairartmuseum.org

Catherine Mastrangelo, 973-259-5119
cmastrangelo@montclairartmuseum.org



Stacy L. Pearsall, *Knock at the Door*, 2007. Eight-color archival pigment inks on Hahnemuhle Rag paper.

**THE MONTCLAIR ART MUSEUM PRESENTS
*STACY PEARSALL: SELECTIONS FROM BAQUBAH, IRAQ***

Exhibition Documents War Experience

On View September 26, 2011–November 11, 2011

I just shoot for the troops. I try to pack as much information and emotion as I can into one frame. I find that my biggest weakness is my biggest strength, and that is really getting in touch with my subjects. Most of the time, if they are suffering, so am I. I shoot what is around me and try to convey that energy with the use of light and body language.

—Stacy Pearsall, Interview with *Popular Photography Magazine*, 2008

MONTCLAIR, NJ, September 20, 2011—The Montclair Art Museum is proud to present the work of decorated combat photographer and award-winning photojournalist Stacy Pearsall. Seventeen of her photographs will be shown in the Arcade Gallery, outside Leir Hall, beginning September 26 and running through November 11.

The exhibition focuses on photographs taken in Baqubah, Iraq, one of Pearsall's four military tours. This selection of images portrays Pearsall's talent for capturing the personal daily experiences of her then comrades-in-arms. Her sharp framing and selective focus pull the viewer into the details of the monotony of war, interrupted intermittently by harrowing action. Together with her lush printing technique, Pearsall's work transmits an emotional connection to a form of service most of us will never experience.

There is no admission charge for this exhibition. Moreover, the Montclair Art Museum is proud to be extending its status as a national Blue Star Museum and will open all its galleries for free to veterans and their families through Veterans Day, November 11.

STACY PEARSALL comes from a long line of military men and women and enlisted in the U.S. Air Force at age 17. She entered the Combat Camera Squadron in January 2002 and participated

—more—

in four tours. The National Press Photographers Association named her Photographer of the Year twice, in 2003 and 2007. Pearsall is one of only two women to win this prestigious award and the only woman to earn it twice. PBS and The Air Force Band honored Pearsall as the Air Force Veteran of the Year, and her hometown of Charleston, S.C., presented her with the American Hero Award. Her work has been published in a variety of media, including *Time* magazine, *Newsweek*, *New York Times*, CNN, BBC, *LA Times*, *USA Today*, *Soldier of Fortune*, Oscar-nominated PBS: "Operation Home Coming," *The Portrait*, and *GQ* magazine's "This is Our War." After being wounded in action in Iraq, she was medically retired from service and began advocacy work through programs such as the Wounded Warrior Program, Real Warriors, Bob Woodruff Foundation, and the Wounded Warrior Games. To help raise awareness about veterans' rights, she completed a year-long portrait project featuring veterans of foreign wars who reside in South Carolina. She is now the owner/director of the Charleston Center for Photography and a founding member of legionphoto.com, a group of combat-photographer veterans. She continues to travel the world on assignment and to give lectures.

Online Press Site

The Museum will maintain a site dedicated to the exhibition for journalists seeking further information, including images. Please visit montclairartmuseum.org and click on For the Media.

Visit Montclair

For more Montclair experiences, visit websites for the Montclair Center Business Improvement District (www.montclaircenter.com/) and Destination Montclair (www.destinationmontclair.com).

About the Museum

The Montclair Art Museum, a notable, community-based institution with an international reputation, boasts a renowned collection of American and Native American art that uniquely highlights art making in the United States over the last three hundred years. The collection includes more than 15,000 objects: paintings, prints, original works on paper, photographs, and sculpture by American artists from the 18th century to the present, as well as traditional and contemporary Native American art and artifacts representing the cultural developments of peoples from all of the major American Indian regions. The Museum's education programs serve a wide public and bring artists, performers, and scholars to the Museum on a regular basis. MAM's Yard School of Art is the leading regional art school, offering a multitude of comprehensive courses for children, teens, adults, seniors, and professional artists.

The Montclair Art Museum is located at 3 South Mountain Avenue in Montclair, N.J. Information and directions are available on the Museum website, montclairartmuseum.org, or by calling 973-746-5555. MAM is open Wednesdays through Sundays, Noon – 5 p.m., and closed on Mondays, Tuesdays, and major holidays. Museum admission is \$12 for nonmember adults, \$10 for senior citizens and students with I.D., and free for members and children under 12.

All Museum programs are made possible, in part, by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and by funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Vance Wall Foundation, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, and Museum Members.

###