

ARTS & Galleries

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Photographer Wendy Paton exhibits at Michener Museum

The James A. Michener Art Museum presents "Wendy Paton: Nuit Blanche," a photographic series by award-winning, internationally renowned fine art photographer Wendy Paton, of Lambertville, N.J., on Aug. 23.

The Bette & Nelson Pfundt and Commonwealth galleries will house the exhibition, showcasing two bodies of work in an installation of 70 selenium-toned gelatin silver prints: a premiere selection of Paton's "Visages de Nuit" collection, complemented by her latest series portfolio, "Reclaiming Dignity."

According to the museum, both collections demonstrate Paton's desire to visually document a contemporary version of portraits, a creative portrayal of what the artist observes through her camera's lens.

"Wendy Paton: Nuit Blanche" demonstrates the artist's contemporary vision using retro tech-



Wendy Paton at The Lumière Brothers Center for Photography, Moscow, Russia 2012, left, and Wendy Paton, "Untitled #2" 2013 from the "Reclaiming Dignity" series.

niques (non-digital, hand-developed, selenium-toned, silver gelatin printing), as well as her distinctive approach to portraiture, ability to humanize objects, and the dramatic use of available light.

"Visages de Nuit" is a collec-

tion of 51 black and white candid night portraits, shot between 2006 and 2012. Their dark, gritty characteristics purposely convey Paton's interpretation of the surreal quality of life at night and what is hiding behind what we normally view as reality.

"Reclaiming Dignity" is a portfolio of Paton's vision of "abstract portraits," faces and bodies of neglected classic vehicles, once coveted for their style, beauty, speed and grace. Left unattended and ignored for decades, then a chance to once again be admired and coveted, and an opportunity to "reclaim their dignity."

"I am greatly pleased to be exhibiting my work at the Michener Art Museum and thrilled that the exhibition is being curated by Lisa Tremper Hanover, the museum's director and CEO," Paton said.

"Her artistic vision to combine these two bodies of work, 'Visages de Nuit' and 'Reclaiming Dignity,' is significant, as this is the first time these

images are being shown together in one exhibition. Having exhibited in major cities and locales in the U.S. and Europe, it is gratifying for me to be able to show this work so close to home."

Hanover said, "The unique scale, subject matter, style and execution of Paton's work, coupled with prints from two of her portfolios, contribute to the strength and uniqueness of this exhibition."

Complementing Paton's exhibition will be two programs – Artist's Lecture and Book Signing, Tuesday, Sept. 16, and Weekend Studio Workshop: Making Photographs/Darkroom & Cyanotype Technique, Saturday, Oct. 18 and Sunday, Oct. 19.

Paton has exhibited her work across the globe – including major exhibitions in Russia and Germany.

Her photography is in the collections of the International Center for Photography, New York; The Lumière Brothers Center for Photography, Moscow; Musée de la Photographie, Belgium; James A. Michener Art Museum; and the personal collection of Prince Albert II of Monaco.

For information, visit MichenerArtMuseum.org or call 215-340-9800.

The Michener Art Museum is located at 138 S. Pine St., Doylestown.