PRESS RELEASE

POMONA COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART presents
“ESTABLISHING JUSTICE: SELECTIONS FROM THE PERMANENT COLLECTION”

Jan. 25 – May 13, 2018


Claremont, CA — “Establishing Justice” examines the criminal justice system by exploring the visual imagery of jails, courtrooms, and police departments and the defendants and prisoners who populate these spaces. These images consider the duality between societal detachment from judicial structures and candid vignettes of its harsh realities, while also questioning the assumption of guilt by racial stereotype, prompting viewers to consider how representational justice manifests itself within the spaces justice is enacted.

“Establishing Justice” also highlights where social and criminal justice collide, where citizens and government hold differing perceptions of what is just. In presenting these discordant points, and the explicit and implicit manifestations of the judicial system, this exhibition prompts a deeper consideration of the nuances and dimensionality of the system itself. “Establishing
Justice” allows us to engage in a thoughtful analysis of the effectiveness, fairness, and civility of the justice system and to consider our role in how justice is defined and executed.

“Establishing Justice” is curated by D’Maia Curry, junior at Pomona College, under the mentorship of jill moniz, academic curator at the Pomona College Museum of Art. It is the fourth in a series of exhibitions developed by student curators under the Benton Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP) at the Pomona College Museum of Art. The exhibition will be accompanied by an illustrated brochure.

**Exhibition Programming**

**4:15 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 25, Pomona College Museum of Art**

In an invitation to engage The Claremont Colleges and the larger Southern California community, Pomona College Museum of Art will host a dynamic conversation in concert with the opening of the exhibitions “Muse: Mickalene Thomas Photographs” with “tête-à-tête,” an installation curated by Thomas, and Pomona curated “Establishing Justice.” Los Angeles artist Todd Gray, a principal at Shin Gray studios and prolific artist of a complex discursive practice, will moderate a conversation with Pomona College Art History Professor Phyllis Jackson and artist Lyle Ashton Harris, a Cal Arts alumni based in New York, whose works are on display in both exhibitions. Reception to follow in the Museum courtyard.

**5 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 8, Rose Hills Theater, Pomona College**

Pomona College Museum of Art will screen Ava DuVernay’s documentary *13th*, about the erasure of black bodies and political agency through the criminal justice system. Reception to follow in the Museum courtyard.

**4:15 p.m., Thursday, Mar. 1 and Friday, Mar. 2, Pomona College**

In conjunction with Spring 2018 exhibitions at the Pomona College Museum of Art, New York artist Alexandra Bell will give a talk on Thursday, March 1st and activate two of her Counternarratives installations on Friday, March 2nd at Pomona College (locations to be announced). Bell investigates the language used by The New York Times to codify otherness, violence and justice in the United States.

**4:15 p.m., Thursday, Mar. 8, Pomona College Museum of Art**

In conjunction with “Establishing Justice,” Professors Michelle Brown (University of Tennessee, Knoxville) and Laura Harris (Pitzer College) discuss justice, abolition, and the intersections of art and social practice. They invite abolition groups from throughout the region, as well as scholars who have made significant contributions and impact on carceral justice, to join the conversation. Reception to follow in the Museum courtyard.

**About the Pomona College Museum of Art**
The Museum collects, preserves, exhibits and interprets works of art; and houses a substantial permanent collection, as well as serving as a gallery of temporary exhibitions. Important holdings include the Kress Collection of 15th- and 16th-century Italian panel paintings; more than 5,000 examples of Pre-Columbian to 20th century American Indian art and artifacts, including basketry, ceramics and beadwork; and a large collection of American and European prints, drawings and photographs, including works by Francisco de Goya, José Clemente Orozco, and Rico Lebrun.

ADMISSION
All exhibitions and programs are free of charge and open to the public.

GENERAL INFORMATION
330 North College Avenue
Claremont, CA 91711
Tuesday through Sunday, 12-5 p.m., Closed Mondays
Art After Hours: Thursday, 5-11 p.m., Jan. 25 – Apr. 26, 2018

Art After Hours offers a variety of programming including live music concerts sponsored by KSPC 88.7 FM, lectures, panels, workshops, tours, film screenings, and performances in conjunction with Museum exhibitions.

For more information, please call 909.621.8283 or visit www.pomona.edu/museum.