The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery and the Department of Art History and Archaeology, Columbia University, in collaboration with The Walther Collection to Present an International Symposium on Contemporary Photography from Africa and the Diaspora

Beyond the Frame
Friday, October 21, 2016
1.00 – 6.30pm
Columbia University, Schermerhorn Hall 501

Tuesday, October 4, 2016 – The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery and the Department of Art History and Archaeology, Columbia University, in collaboration with The Walther Collection, will present a symposium entitled Beyond the Frame: Contemporary Photography from Africa and the Diaspora on Friday, October 21, 2016. The symposium brings together leading international scholars, curators, artists, and cultural producers to engage with the multiple perspectives, conceptual themes, and circumstances shaping the work of the current generation of African photographic and video artists. This half-day event coincides with The Expanded Subject: New Perspectives in Photographic Portraiture from Africa, curated by Joshua I. Cohen, Sandrine Colard, and Giulia Paoletti, an exhibition at The Wallach Art Gallery exploring contemporary African photographic portraiture, as well as Recent Histories, curated by Joshua Chuang, The Walther Collection’s third installment of its multi-year exhibition series, New Photography from Africa (2015-2017).

Beyond the Frame is free and open to the public. Individuals interested in attending should visit the Wallach Art Gallery website to register in advance. For more information about the event, email contact@walthercollection.com or call +1 212 854 6800.
The symposium will focus on specific artistic practices, while also considering the institutional and infrastructural contexts in which these practices emerge. Incorporating a wide range of speakers, Beyond the Frame will provide an opportunity for exchange, debate, and dialogue about critical issues in the field of contemporary photography in Africa and the Diaspora. It is co-chaired by Chika Okeke-Agulu (Princeton University) and Kerryn Greenberg (Tate Modern). Participants include Antawan Byrd (Northwestern University), Sandrine Colard (Columbia University), Andrew Esiebo (Artist), John Fleetwood (PHOTO), Emmanuel Iduma (School of Visual Arts), M. Neelika Jayawardane (SUNY Oswego), Karen Kedmey (Independent), Eva Langret (Tiwani Contemporary), Missla Libsekal (Another Africa), Dawit L. Petros (Artist), Allison Moore (University of South Florida), Yvette Mutumba (Contemporary And), John Peffer (Rampo College), Zina Saro-Wiwa (Boys’ Quarters), Z.S. Strother (Columbia University), Drew Thompson (Bard College), Artur Walther (The Walther Collection), and Brendan Wattenberg (Aperture Magazine).

Beyond the Frame: Contemporary Photography from Africa and the Diaspora is organized by Giulia Paoletti, Joshua I. Cohen, and Sandrine Colard for The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery and the Department of Art History and Archaeology, Columbia University and Joshua Chuang, Evelyn Owen, and Oluremi C. Onabanjo for The Walther Collection.

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The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery advances Columbia University's historical, critical and creative engagement with the visual arts. Serving as both a laboratory and a forum, The Wallach Art Gallery offers opportunities for curatorial practice and discourse, while bridging the diverse approaches to the arts at the University with a welcome broader public. The Wallach presents projects organized by graduate students and faculty in Art History and Archaeology or by other Columbia scholars; offering new scholarship on University special collections; or focusing on the contemporary artists of our campus and communities. Established in 1986, The Wallach is the University's premier visual arts space, serving as a platform for critically acclaimed exhibitions, a dynamic range of programming and publications that contribute to scholarship. The gallery also animates other university spaces as opportunities arise. The Wallach Art Gallery operates in close relationship with the Department of Art History and Archaeology, School of the Arts and the University Libraries, particularly Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library. The work of The Wallach Art Gallery is made possible by an endowment established by Miriam and Ira D. Wallach. For more information please visit: Wallach Art Gallery

The Walther Collection is dedicated to researching, collecting, exhibiting, and publishing photography and video art. Located in the landmark West Chelsea Arts Building, The Walther Collection Project Space is an exploratory exhibition venue, supporting programming and research in connection with the collection’s main museum campus in Neu-Ulm, Germany. The collection is currently engaged in a multi-year examination of contemporary photography from Africa and the African Diaspora. The third installment, Recent Histories, which features the photography and video work of Simon Gush, Délio Jasse, Dawit L. Petros, Lebohang Kganye, and Zina Saro-Wiwa, is on view through December 17 at The Walther Collection Project Space, 526 West 26th Street, Suite 718. Opening hours are Wednesday-Saturday, 12 - 6pm. For more information about New Photography from Africa please visit: www.walthercollection.com