

cincinnati art museum

we bring people and art together

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***Images Available Upon Request**

New special feature *Unknown Elements* ignites the imagination *Cincinnati Art Museum, Aug. 15 – Nov. 8, 2015*

CINCINNATI – July 17, 2015 – From Aug. 15 to Nov. 8, *Unknown Elements* presents a selection of 26 photographs from the Cincinnati Art Museum's collection about which some details are unknown. The photographs, from the mid-19th century to present day, are without the name of the photographer, or the identity of the sitter, or the place and time the picture was made.

Five Cincinnati-area writers responded to these gaps in knowledge with poems, short stories and other creative responses. These writings will be presented alongside some of the photographs as a prompt for viewers' own reflections.

Unknown Elements will challenge visitors to unleash their imagination in interpreting the photographs; experience visual art from a written artist's perspective; and explore art through what is not revealed on the surface. Almost all of the photographs, whether by famous names like Walker Evans or anonymous, will be displayed for the first time.

The exhibit will be in the Albert E. Heekin and Bertha E. Heekin Gallery on the museum's second floor (Gallery 212). Cincinnati Art Museum Associate Curator of Photography, Brian Sholis, organized the display.

Featured Cincinnati Writers

- **Matt Hart** - poet, musician, professor at the Art Academy of Cincinnati.
<http://www.expresscincinnati.com/exp-commentary/matt-hart-poet-punk-rocker-and-professor/>
- **Sarah Rose Nordgren** - poet, professor at Miami University; her first book of poems, *Best Bones*, won a prestigious prize and was just published by University of Pittsburgh Press.
<http://sarahrosenordgren.com>
- **Albert Pyle** - writer, former columnist for *Cincinnati Magazine*, former executive director of the Mercantile Library.
- **Leah Stewart** - novelist, director of the UC Creative Writing program. New novel released in July.
http://leahstewart.com/site/?page_id=6 and <http://books.simonandschuster.com/The-New-Neighbor/Leah-Stewart/9781501103513>
- **Kathy Y. Wilson** - writer, former *CityBeat* columnist, first Writer-in-Residence at the Cincinnati Public Library. <http://www.cincinnati.library.org/news/2014/librarywriterinresidence.html>

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About the Cincinnati Art Museum

The Cincinnati Art Museum is supported by the generosity of individuals and businesses that give annually to ArtsWave. The Ohio Arts Council helps fund the Cincinnati Art Museum with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. The Cincinnati Art Museum gratefully acknowledges operating support from the City of Cincinnati, as well as our members.

General admission to the Cincinnati Art Museum is always free. The museum is open Tuesday – Sunday, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. and is closed Monday.