

CMCA

Center for Maine Contemporary Art

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On and Off the Midway

March 21 - June 13

Related Events

Opening Reception

Saturday, April 4, 2-4 p.m.

Gallery Talk with Bruce Brown

Sunday, June 7, 2 p.m.

CMCA is Looking at Mainers having Fun

On and Off the Midway, featuring Mainers at play and having fun depicted in more than 75 images of state fairs, festivals and holidays by 25 photographers, opens at the Center for Maine Contemporary Art (CMCA) in Rockport on Saturday, March 21 and continues through June 13. A public reception is set for Saturday, April 4 from 2-4 p.m. Bruce Brown will be giving a gallery talk on Sunday, June 7, 2 p.m.

This exhibition in the Bruce Brown and Tucker Galleries highlights 26 popular annual statewide events that bring Maine communities together through all seasons of the year. These include state fairs in Bangor, Skowhegan, Fryeburg, and the midway at Old Orchard Beach, to an ice fishing festival on Sebago Lake and dog sled races in Fort Kent and July 4th celebrations in Eastport and Castine.

"This show has been on my mind for years," explains Bruce Brown, CMCA curator emeritus who organized the exhibition. "Certain photographs in the show, especially featuring state fairs by Dee Peppe of Hope, Philip Isaacson of Lewiston and Christine McLarty of Camden, have percolated in my mind's eye for more than a decade. The time had come to put such a show together. Mainers find so many ways to celebrate social, environmental and seasonal events and fortunately they attract the attention of several of Maine's most gifted photographers who help us see popular culture in new and engaging ways."

"What has been particularly unexpected and exciting is discovering the work of eleven photographers from all over Maine who are appearing at CMCA for the first time including Ilya Askinazi, Leslie

Bowman, Bridget Brown, Kate Collins and Edwin Martin from greater Bangor, Rene Braun of Windham, Dagney Ernest of Thomaston, William L. Duncan of Stockholm, Arthur Fink of Peaks Island, Diane Hudson and Jo Moser from greater Portland and Brad Maushart of Kennebunkport.

Also participating in *On and Off the Midway* are Melonie Bennett, Thomas Birtwistle, Tillman Crane, Kathie Florsheim, Sean Harris, Philip Isaacson, Kris Larsen, Christine McLarty, James McLarty, Patrisha McLean, Dee Peppe, Liv Kristin Robinson and David Stess.



Dee Peppe, *Old Orchard Beach*, 1995/2003, Silver Gelatin Print 22”x28”



Leslie Bowman, *Children's Parade Eastport*, 2007, Digital Print, 16” x 12”

The Center for Maine Contemporary Art (CMCA) is a nonprofit organization advancing contemporary art in Maine through exhibitions and educational programs. CMCA is located at 162 Russell Avenue in downtown Rockport. Winter Hours (through Memorial Day) are Thursday through Saturday, 10 am-5 pm. Sunday, 1-5 pm. Closed Monday - Wednesday. General admission is \$5.00. Admission is free for members, Rockport residents and children. The facilities are fully wheelchair accessible. For more information phone 207-236-2875 or consult the website at www.cmcanow.org.