

USF Contemporary Art Museum
NEWS RELEASE
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USF Contemporary Art Museum is pleased to present
Miki Kratsman: People I Met
August 20 – December 8, 2018



People I Met (installation view), Museo de Arte Contemporaneo, Santiago, Chile. Photo: MAC Quinta Normal.

For three decades, Miki Kratsman has been one of the leading chroniclers of life in the Israeli-occupied territories. His photographs—many of them documentary images taken during a previous life as a press photographer for the Israeli newspapers *Hadashot* and *Haaretz*—uncover personal stories while revealing the violent, often detached nature of Israel's military occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

While trying to answer the question “What happened to the people in the photographs?,” Kratsman amassed a vast archive of more than 9,000 portraits of anonymous Palestinians, which he first uploaded onto a dedicated Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/kratsman.people.i.met/>) in 2011. The USFCAM installation materializes the artist’s growing portrait archive together with identifying commentary that, in some cases, serves as a literal proof of life—or death. *People I Met* raises questions about the culture of representation and continues the museum’s tradition of presenting challenging artwork with social content.

The exhibition also includes works from several other contemporaneous projects. These include photographic selections from Kratsman’s *Bedouin Archive* and his *Displaced* series, and table-top “panoramas” of “unrecognized” Arab villages the Israeli government has slated for demolition. The 2017 video titled *70 Meters... White T-shirt* condenses a year of shooting in the Palestinian village of Nabi Salih.

Curated by USF Contemporary Art Museum curator-at-large Christian Viveros-Fauné; organized by USFCAM. Exhibition made possible by USF World and The Artis Grant Program.

ARTIST'S BIO

Miki Kratsman was born in 1959 in Argentina and immigrated to Israel in 1971. From 1993 to 2012 his photographs appeared regularly in the newspaper *Haaretz*. From 2006 to 2014 he served as Director of the Photography Department of Bezalel Academy of Arts, Jerusalem, where he continues to teach and lecture. Kratsman is the fifth recipient of the Robert Gardner Fellowship in Photography, awarded by Harvard University's Peabody Museum of Archeology and Ethnology. He is also the 2011 winner of the Emet Prize for Science, Art and Culture. His work has been exhibited in, among other major international exhibitions, the 2003 Venice Biennale and the 2006 Sao Paulo Biennial. Since 2004, he has been the Chairman of the Board of Breaking the Silence, an organization of veteran Israeli combatants that collects testimonies from soldiers about their service in the occupied territories.



Portraits from Miki Kratsman, *People I Met*, 2010-2018. 2050 digital prints and 150 brass plaques with text

RELATED EVENTS

Artists & Books: Conversations

Beyond News: Miki Kratsman in conversation with Christian Viveros-Fauné

August 30, 6:30–8:30pm

Oxford Exchange, 420 W Kennedy Blvd, Tampa, FL 33602

Ticketed Event (\$5) - RSVP Here: <https://oxfordexchange.ticketspice.com/art-conversation-miki-kratsman--0830>

Oxford Exchange and USF Contemporary Art Museum partner to present a conversation between the Israeli artist Miki Kratsman and New York-based art critic and curator Christian Viveros-Fauné. Miki Kratsman will be signing the book *The Resolution of the Suspect* (Photographs by Miki Kratsman, Text by Ariella Azoulay), following the talk. The \$5 ticket can be applied to the purchase of a book.

Miki Kratsman: Artist Conversation

August 31, 6–7pm

USF School of Music Concert Hall

Join us for a conversation between artist Miki Kratsman and curator Christian Viveros-Fauné in conjunction with the exhibition *Miki Kratsman: People I Met*. Sponsored in part by USF World. ASL Interpreters will be present.

***Miki Kratsman: People I Met* Exhibition Reception**

August 31, 7–9pm

USF Contemporary Art Museum

Meet the artist and curator of the *Miki Kratsman: People I Met* exhibition.

Art Thursday: Curator's Tour

September 13, 6–8pm

USF Contemporary Art Museum

Join CAM for a guided tour of the *Miki Kratsman: People I Met* exhibition. Tour begins at 6:30pm.

Symposium: *Politics of the Portrait / Photography as Activism*

October 11, 2–5pm

MUS Conference Center

Join us for a lively afternoon discussion of political and contemporary aesthetic considerations raised by the exhibition *Miki Kratsman: People I Met*. USF faculty members will be moderated by USFCAM curator-at-large Christian Viveros-Fauné.

- **Dr. Ulluminair Salim:** Professor Salim is a full-time faculty member in the Honors College and explores questions of whose lives matter, whose bodies count, and who decides, traversing the interstices between scientific progress, capitalism, and social responsibility.
- **Dr. Steven Roach:** Associate Professor of International Politics in the Department of Government and International Affairs, Dr. Roach's research interests lie in the areas of international human rights, the intersection of politics and international law, critical international relations theory and global governance.
- **Wendy Babcox:** Associate Professor, Photography, Babcox works primarily in photography and video and has received two public art commissions. She is a founding member of the 6+ Collective. Her solo and collaborative projects have been exhibited and performed nationally and internationally.
- **Noelle Mason:** Associate Professor, Foundations Studio: Concepts and Practices, Mason is a trans-media artist who manipulates appropriated images, objects and contexts to investigate and expose the subtle seductiveness of power facilitated by systems of visual control.
- **Dr. Benjamin Young:** Dr. Young's current work investigates the dynamics of perception, emotion, desire and normative moral intuitions in relation to social and ecological systems. Ultimately, he aims to contribute to our understanding of human flourishing with regards to the person, community and environment.
- **Jason Lazarus,** Assistant Professor Photography, Lazarus's research asks how we may understand and utilize increasingly broad definitions of photography in an expanded field, utilizing not only the camera but found and appropriated images, text-as-image, live archives, and public submission repositories.

Symposium Reception

October 11, 5–7pm

Contemporary Art Museum

The *Miki Kratsman: People I Met* exhibition will be open following the symposium ***Politics of the Portrait / Photography as Activism***. Light refreshments will be served.

Art Thursday: Concert in the Galleries

November 1, 8-10pm

USF Contemporary Art Museum

USF Contemporary Art Museum and USF Contemporary Chamber Music partner to bring you a live performance of existing and new musical scores presented in response to the *Miki Kratsman: People I Met* exhibition. Light refreshments will be served.

Film on the Lawn: 5 Broken Cameras

November 16, 6pm

USF Contemporary Art Museum

Pack a picnic, bring a lawn chair or blanket and come to CAM for a free outdoor screening of *5 Broken Cameras*. The documentary was shot almost entirely by Palestinian farmer Emad Burnat, and joined in 2009 by Israeli co-director Guy Davidi. *5 Broken Cameras* won a 2012 Sundance Film Festival award, the Golden Apricot in 2012 and the 2013 International Emmy Award.

ABOUT USF CONTEMPORARY ART MUSEUM

USF Contemporary Art Museum (USFCAM) organizes and presents significant and investigative exhibitions of contemporary art from Florida, the United States and around the world. Serving as a teaching laboratory, USFCAM's curatorial and socially engaged initiatives and educational programs are designed to present the

students, faculty, and community with current issues of contemporary art practice, and to explore the role of the arts in society. USFCAM publishes relevant catalogues, presents critically recognized traveling exhibitions and commissions new projects by national and international artists. USFCAM maintains the university's art collection, comprising more than 5000 contemporary art works.

MUSEUM HOURS + ADMISSIONS

USFCAM Hours:

Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Thurs 10am-8pm, Sat 1-4pm

Closed Sundays and University Holidays

(Closed September 3 for Labor Day; November 12 for Veteran's Day; November 22–24 for Thanksgiving)

Admission to the Museum is free; however, a USF parking permit (\$5.00 daily) or pay-per-space parking is required. Please visit our website cam.usf.edu for parking, directions, or more information on events associated with the exhibitions. Groups and organizations interested in tours should contact USFCAM to schedule at least two weeks in advance. Call (813) 974-4133 for additional information.

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