

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
September 1991

NEW PHOTOGRAPHY 7

October 17, 1991 - January 7, 1992

The Museum of Modern Art's annual NEW PHOTOGRAPHY series continues this fall with an exhibition of recent color work by Eberhard Grames, Sheron Rupp, and Stephen A. Scheer. Organized by Susan Kismaric, curator, Department of Photography, NEW PHOTOGRAPHY 7 is on view from October 17, 1991, through January 7, 1992. The subjects of the photographs include scenes of East Germany, family life in American towns, and traditional genres such as landscape, portraiture, and still life, innovatively reinterpreted.

This exhibition is supported by a generous grant from Springs Industries, Inc., and is part of the Springs of Achievement Series on the Art of Photography at The Museum of Modern Art.

German photographer Eberhard Grames studied at the University of Cologne from 1972 to 1976. In 1989, shortly before the Berlin Wall was removed, he began a series of portraits, natural and industrial landscapes, and scenes of daily life in East Germany. Grames's photographs document the realities of this rapidly changing country--its dilapidated buildings, antiquated trucks and carts--and portray its people in a direct, unsentimental way. Using an 8 x 10" view camera, the photographer captures the subtle colors and minute details of a crumbling facade, a ragged piece of clothing, or a face.

Sheron Rupp received a BA in sociology and psychology from Denison University in 1965, and an MFA in photography from the University of Massachusetts in 1982. Since 1983, Rupp has photographed the domestic life of

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people in small towns in her native Ohio and in the Northeast. While her earlier work depicted children and teenagers, in recent years she has focused on adults and families. Whether in a portrait or a seemingly unstaged situation in a living room, in a back yard, or on a front porch, the people in her pictures go about their lives in an unguarded way.

Stephen A. Scheer is director of the program in photography at the Ohio University School of Art, Athens; he received his BA in art history from Bowdoin College in 1976, and his MFA in photography from Yale University in 1980. Scheer's large-format photographs include landscapes and gardens in Italy and Wave Hill, New York, as well as still lifes and portraits of himself and of friends. In the garden and landscape pictures, which are made with multiple exposures, images overlap to create an effect of floral splendor. Scheer's still lifes present household objects that jut out in different directions, creating unstable yet dynamic compositions. The subjects of his portraits, including himself, are often surrounded by cluttered environments that seem to convey a sense of disquiet.

The Museum's NEW PHOTOGRAPHY series is devoted to recent work of contemporary photographers who are not yet widely known.

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For further information or photographic materials, contact the Department of Public Information, 212/708-9750.