

PRESS RELEASE

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**Wendy Given**

***No Man's Land***

**October 17 – December 6, 2008**

**Front Gallery: *Superflowers*, new photographs by Steve Aishman**

**Opening reception: Friday, October 17 / 6 - 8 PM**

Solomon Projects is pleased to present *No Man's Land*, an installation of color photography and sculptural elements by Portland, Oregon-based artist, Wendy Given. Additionally, in the front gallery we will present *Superflowers* new photographs by Atlanta-based photographer Steve Aishman. The exhibitions will be on view from October 17 – December 6, 2008 with an opening reception with the artists present on Friday, October 17 from 6-8 PM. Given will speak about her work on Saturday, October 18th at 2 PM; Aishman's artist talk will take place on Saturday, October 25th at 2 PM. The exhibition and artist talks are presented in conjunction with Atlanta Celebrates Photography.

Given's *No Man's Land* presents two related bodies of work: *A. hypogaea albus* (*peanut elves*) and *The Wilds*. The images are conceptual constructions of portraits, places, landscapes and vignettes found in the ordinary world that are seldom noticed in daily experience. The photographs portray moments in time that possess otherworldliness — a “no man's land” where humankind is peripheral to the scene. An observer may feel a familiarity with the imagery via mythology and fables committed to our collective memory. The constructions capture moments in time in the same vein as “if a tree falls in a forest” — the assumed perception and perspective of the unobserved world where the viewer might feel privy to the scene. Ultimately, the photographs foster a myriad of contemporary narratives and invoke each viewer's willingness to search, see and believe.

Given was born in Dayton, OH, in 1971. She received a M.F.A. from Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles, CA, and B.F.A. from the Atlanta College of Art, Atlanta, GA. She has received numerous awards including the Factor Graduate Scholarship and Ahmanson Foundation Scholarship while at Otis, and the Gene Allcott Memorial Scholarship Merit Award at ACA. Her work in film and photography has been exhibited in Germany, The Netherlands and nationally. After graduating from the Atlanta College of Art, Given relocated to Los Angeles, CA, and recently she moved to Portland, OR, where this body of work was shot and produced. This is the artist's third exhibition at Solomon Projects.

Steve Aishman's *Superflowers* on view in the gallery's front space, is a photographic series of implausible floral bouquets, will complement the wonderment of Given's installation. Aishman received an A.B. from Princeton University, Princeton, NJ and a M.F.A. from School of the Museum of Fine Arts Boston / Tufts University, Boston, MA. His work has been featured in museum exhibitions in Argentina and India, and nationally in solo shows at the Boston Athenaeum Gallery, Boston, MA (2002) and the Tisch Gallery, Tufts University, Boston, MA (2001). Aishman is the Acting Chair of Photography at Savannah College of Art and Design Atlanta. This is his first exhibition at the gallery.

For images and further information, kindly visit our website [www.solomonprojects.com](http://www.solomonprojects.com) or contact us at [info@solomonprojects.com](mailto:info@solomonprojects.com).