



**UNIVERSITY MUSEUM  
OF CONTEMPORARY ART**  
University of Massachusetts Amherst

## **NEWS RELEASE UPDATE**

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Please Post Until End Date  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 1, 2011**

### ***Intersections Intersected: The Photography of David Goldblatt***

University Museum of Contemporary Art, Fine Arts Center, UMass Amherst  
(formerly University Gallery)

February 3 – May 1, 2011

Opening Reception, Thursday, February 3, 5:00 – 8:00 pm

Including Panel Discussion with the artist, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

***...he produces images of great beauty and the most profound humanity.***

—The Wall Street Journal

David Goldblatt (b. South Africa, 1930) is one of the great documentary photographers of our time. As both citizen and photographer, he was witness to apartheid's infiltration into every aspect of South African life. The exhibition of over 100 photographs, taken by Goldblatt during the past 50 years, focuses on South Africa's human landscape in the apartheid and post-apartheid eras. The exhibition, titled *Intersections Intersected*, looks at the relationship between the past and present by pairing Goldblatt's earlier black-and-white images with his more recent color work. Sometimes the pairings show the same place 20 years apart. In other cases Goldblatt couples images of comparable scenes at different moments. Through those pairings Goldblatt introduces a strong element of time in his images, creating unpredictable results.

Captions written by the artist accompany each photograph in order to convey context and critical information about the image. His photographs do not look at the large events or the public face of violence; rather they focus on the world of ordinary people and the minutiae of everyday life, illuminating the depth of injustice and the character of the people who imposed it and who struggled against it.

Goldblatt says, "I regard myself as an unlicensed, self-appointed observer and critic of South African society which I continue to explore with the camera."

Recipient of the 2009 Henri Cartier-Bresson Award and the prestigious Hasselblad Photography Award, David Goldblatt began photographing professionally in the early 1960s, focusing on the imagery and effects of apartheid. The son of Jewish Lithuanian parents who fled to South Africa to escape religious persecution, Goldblatt was forced into a peculiar situation, being both a white man in a racially segregated society and a member of a religious minority with a sense of otherness.

Goldblatt continues to explore the consciousness of South African society today, looking at the condition of race relations after the end of apartheid while also tackling other contemporary issues, such as the influence of the AIDS epidemic. As an almost forensic witness to history, *Intersections Intersected* commingles past, present, and future in a narrative that persistently turns away from spectacle in its constant search for the human.

His photographic essay *South Africa: the Structure of Things Then* was made into a monograph and also shown at the Museum of Modern Art, NY in 1998. Goldblatt's work was included in *Documenta 11* in 2002; *Documenta 12* in 2007; and the traveling mega-exhibition *Africa Remix* in 2004-07. His limited edition book, *Particulars*, won the award for the best photography book at the Rencontres d'Arles festival, France, in 2004. His most recent solo exhibitions include *Intersections Intersected: The Photography of David Goldblatt*, organized in 2008 by the Fundação de Serralves, Portugal, and curated by Ulrich Loock (travelled to the Malmo Konsthall, Sweden; The New Museum, NY; and the University Museum of Contemporary Art, UMass Amherst); and *South African Photographs: David Goldblatt* at the Jewish Museum, NY, 2010.

The exhibition at the University Museum of Contemporary Art will be the context for which a program of panel discussions, public talks, film screenings, readings, and an outreach school program is being organized. Please consult the University Museum's website for updates and detail, [umass.edu/fac/umca](http://umass.edu/fac/umca)

## ASSOCIATED EVENTS

Multicultural Film Festival Opening Film  
State of Violence  
Wednesday, February 2 7:30 pm  
137 School of Management (Flavin Auditorium)

Film directed by Khalo Matabane, South Africa. Introduction by Stephen Clingman, Director, Interdisciplinary Seminar in the Humanities and Fine Arts, UMass Amherst; renowned South African photographer David Goldblatt and Katwiwa Mule (Director, African Studies, Smith College) will be present for a discussion following the screening. For more information, please visit Multicultural Film Festival website  
Free and open to the public

Opening Reception  
Thursday, February 3 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
University Museum of Contemporary Art (formerly University Gallery)

Free and open to the public

Panel Discussion with David Goldblatt

during the Opening Reception

Thursday, February 3 from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Fine Arts Center Lobby

Opening conversation between David Goldblatt with Susan Jahoda (UMass Professor of Studio Art), Stephen Clingman (UMass Professor of English and Director of ISHA), and Natasha Becker (Mellon Assistant Director of Research and Academic Programs, The Clark Institute of Art, Williamstown, MA).

Free and open to the public

Reflections on Collective Activism

Panel Discussion and Film screening of *RFK in the Land of Apartheid*

Wednesday, March 2 from 4:45 pm to 7:00 pm

Studio Arts Building, Room 240

Panelists: Sean Redding (Amherst College Professor of History), Larry Shore (Filmmaker of *RFK in the Land of Apartheid*, CUNY Professor of Film + Media Studies), and John Higginson (UMass Professor of History). The panelists will look at the historic parallels between South Africa and the United States and the role of the United States in the apartheid movement in South Africa.

Free and open to the public

Apartheid in the United States?

Panel Discussion

Wednesday, March 30 from 4:45 pm to 6:00 pm

Studio Arts Building, Room 240

Panelists: Whitney Battle-Baptiste (UMass Assistant Professor of Communication and Public Policy); Tatishe Nteta (UMass Assistant Professor of Political Science), Mzamo Mangaliso (UMass Associate Professor of Management). While the United States is not South Africa, both countries have experienced profound societal changes with the elimination of racial segregation. About 50 years later the United States still struggles with issues of racial inequality. While policies attempt to level the ground society fails to completely erase racial divisions. Are the issues still alive? How those changes have played out and are still grappled with will be the subject of the discussion.

Free and open to the public

Literature after Apartheid

Panel Discussion and Reading

Thursday, April 14 from 4:45 pm to 7:00 pm

Studio Arts Building, Room 240

Panelists: Zakes Mda (South African author and playwright, Ohio University Professor of Creative Writing); Stephen Clingman (UMass Professor of English and Director of the Interdisciplinary Seminar in the Humanities and Fine Arts); Rita Barnard (UPenn Professor of English and Director of Women's Studies Program). South Africa has produced strong literary figures during its turbulent social transformation such as Nadine Gordimer and J. M. Coetzee, both friends of Goldblatt's. This discussion will investigate 40 years of South African literature.

Free and open to the public

The University Museum of Contemporary Art gratefully acknowledges the support of Teagno Construction; the UMass Interdisciplinary Seminar in the Humanities and Fine Arts (ISHA); and the Fine Arts Center Friends' Artist Residency Fund.

This exhibition is organized by Fundação de Serralves – Museu de Arte Contemporânea, Porto, Portugal and presented by the University Museum of Contemporary Art, Fine Arts Center, University of Massachusetts.

Museum Hours:            Tuesday – Friday, 11:00 AM – 4:30 PM, Saturday/Sunday 2 – 5 PM  
                                  Closed Mondays, holidays, and during spring break, March 12-21

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