



CONTEMPORARY IMAGES IN PRINT SINCE 1915

CONTACT: Ashley Peel Pinkham, 215-735-6090 x2

Lydia Panas: After Sargent

June 7 – July 27, 2013

Thursday, June 6: Gallery Talk by the Artist, 5:30pm; Opening Reception 6:00-8:00pm

PHILADELPHIA -(May 27, 2013)- *After Sargent* is an exhibition of new photographic work by Pennsylvania artist Lydia Panas. Panas' series of the same name continues her ongoing interest in creating complex portraits of individuals and groups. The works were inspired by a trip to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston to see John Singer Sargent's *Four Daughters of Edward Darley Boit*. "The painting itself is amazing, and I lingered in the Sargent galleries and studied the single portraits as well," she states in a recent interview with *Lenscratch*. "I was most affected by Sargent's attention to the spirit of his models and his own response to them. I find his most successful works to be the ones that feel like photographs. My photographs from this series don't look like Sargent's paintings, but they are inspired by the acuity of his psychological connection to his models."

Panas' portraits of people, alone or paired, are shot outdoors against richly textured fabric. Despite their simplicity, the works are emotionally charged and her subjects reveal much more to the camera than they probably realize. Many of her portraits are of young adults, some carefully constructing their self for the camera and others less guarded and posed. Individual works capture highly specific details of each subject, while the series as a whole builds into something universal.

Panas' first monograph *The Mark of Abel*, published by Kehrer Verlag, received a Best Books Nomination from *Photo Eye Magazine* in 2011, and was named in the *Photo District News'* PHOTO ANNUAL Books of 2012, as well as a Top Ten Coffee Table Book of 2012 by the *Daily Beast*.

Panas received her BFA in Photography from the School of Visual Arts, New York, NY and her MA in Photography from New York University / International Center of Photography, New York, NY. She attended the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program, New York, NY and was an artist in residence at the Banff Centre for the Arts, Banff, Canada. Recent solo exhibitions were held at the Eduard Planting Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands; Rayko Photo Center, San Francisco, CA; Foley Gallery, New York, NY; and the Allentown Museum of Art, Allentown, PA. Her work is in numerous public collections including the Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, IL; Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY; and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX. Her work has been published widely in periodicals such as the *New York Times Magazine*, *Photo District News*, *Popular Photography*, *German GEO*, *the San Francisco Chronicle* and the *Wall Street Journal* blog.

Lydia Panas: After Sargent will be on view June 7 – July 27, 2013. The opening reception is Thursday, June 6 from 6:00-8:00pm, with a gallery talk by the artist at 5:30pm. Panas was awarded this solo exhibition from The Print Center's *87th Annual International Competition* juried by Irene Hofmann, Phillips Director & Chief Curator, SITE Santa Fe, Sante Fe, NM.

The Print Center supports printmaking and photography as vital contemporary arts and encourages the appreciation of the printed image in all its forms. The Print Center presents a variety of programs for the public including exhibitions; The Print Center Gallery Store, which offers the largest and most diverse selection of contemporary prints in Philadelphia; the longest running annual international competition for prints and photographs in the country; and an extensive series of education programs and special events.