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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Eirik Johnson: Borderlands
Museum of Contemporary Photography
Columbia College Chicago
August 2, 2005 – October 1, 2005

The Museum of Contemporary Photography will exhibit *Eirik Johnson: Borderlands* from August 2nd to October 1st, 2005.

Begun in late 2001, Eirik Johnson's on-going series *Borderlands* navigates unclaimed spaces in search of the various and temporary relationships that develop where human and environmental forces meet. The scope of the project encompasses the frontiers of the American Northwest, ranging from British Columbia down through Nevada, with an emphasis on the outskirts of Seattle and the edges of the San Francisco Bay area. While these pictures sometimes depict urban sprawl or littered fields and generally evidence a human presence in the environment, they are not concerned so much with the degradation of the landscape as they are with the strange and chance things that happen in places that are largely left alone.

Borderlands will be accompanied by a publication of the same name, designed by the artist, published by MoCP and Twin Palms Publishers, and funded by the Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation and the Museum Council of the MoCP. The physical strategies of the book's design compliment and expand Johnson's themes. There are no margins, no gutters, no marks of binding; in short, there are no distractions, no reminders that the image is flat and its great depth and texture an illusion.

The Museum of Contemporary Photography's exhibitions, presentations, and related programs are sponsored in part by Columbia College Chicago, the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation; After School Matters, Gallery 37; American Airlines, the official airlines of the Museum of Contemporary Photography; and our members.

The Museum of Contemporary Photography is free and open to the public weekdays from 10 am until 5 pm (Thursdays until 8 pm) and Saturdays from noon until 5 pm. The Museum is located at 600 S. Michigan Avenue on the corner of Harrison Street. For additional information please call 312-663-5554 or visit us at www.mocp.org.

Related Events:

Closing Reception and Book Signing
Thursday, September 29, 2005
5-7 pm
Museum of Contemporary Photography

Eirik Johnson will give a gallery talk at 5 pm and sign copies of his newly released book *Borderlands* at 6 pm.

Lecture: Joel Peter Witkin
Thursday, September 8, 2005
6pm
Ferguson Theater

600 S. Michigan Ave., 1st Floor

Members Event

Photographic Excursion

Saturday, September 24, 2005

1 – 4 pm

reservation required

Join museum Midwest Photographers Project artists Jonathan Gitelson and Brian Ulrich and bring your (analogue or digital) camera on a walking excursion to explore the landscapes, architecture and people of downtown Chicago as you learn basic composition and camera techniques. Afterwards, join the artists for beer and conversation at a local pub.

For more information on member events, or to become a member today, contact Ron Humbertson at 312.344.7794 or visit mocp.org