

Press Release

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February 28, 2003 312.344.7779

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Pictures by Jason Salavon

The Museum of Contemporary Photography

Columbia College Chicago

MARCH 12 THROUGH APRIL 24, 2003

CHICAGO - Jason Salavon (United States, born 1970) will exhibit three of his amalgam pictures series as part of The Museum of Contemporary Photography's ongoing program of Midwest Photographers Project exhibitions from March 12 through April 24, 2003.

Salavon collects sets of photographic source material, such as every Playboy centerfold from a single decade or all of the portraits from his high school class, and color averages them by pixel using software he writes himself. His final compositions, output as color photographs, are usually fuzzy, generic images that suggest the predominant characteristics of the set of photographs he has blended. Playboy centerfolds, for example, are typically light-skinned and light-haired female figures presented in a full frontal pose and radiant against a bluish background. Salavon uses the digital medium to disrupt the narrative of the data, abstract it, and investigate the relationship between the parts and the whole. More than just a tool, his digital process is essential to the concept of the piece. "My work," explains Salavon, "investigates the manipulation, reorganization, and/or generation of immense data sets common to American life."

A reception will be held on Thursday, March 27, 2003 from 5 pm until 7 pm at The Museum of Contemporary Photography and is free and open to the public.

Salavon received his BA from the University of Texas at Austin (1993) and his MFA from The School of The Art Institute of Chicago (1997). His work has been widely exhibited and is held in numerous collections, such as the Whitney Museum of American Art and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago. He lives and works in Chicago.

The exhibitions, presentations, and related programs of The Museum of Contemporary Photography are sponsored in part by the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; the National Endowment for the Arts; the Kaplan Family Foundation; the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs/Gallery 37; and American Airlines, the official airlines of The Museum of Contemporary Photography.

The museum is free and open to the public weekdays from 10 am until 5 pm (Thursdays until 8 pm) and Saturdays from 12 until 5 pm. It is located at 600 S. Michigan Avenue at Harrison Street. Phone 312.344.7104 or visit [mocp.org](http://mocp.org) for additional information.