



CENTER FOR THE ARTS

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WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY'S EZRA AND CECILE ZILKHA GALLERY AND
THE ETHICS IN SOCIETY PROJECT Present

Who's Looking?

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A Collaborative, Multi-Disciplinary Investigation of Human Relations to
Chimpanzees

November 3 – December 2, 2007

Ezra and Cecile Zilkha Gallery, Wesleyan University
283 Washington Terrace
Middletown, CT

Middletown, Conn., October 24, 2007— Chimpanzees, more than any other non-human animal, stir something deep and conflicted within us. What do chimpanzees see when they look at us and what do we see when we look at them? Given our similarities and our differences, what obligations do humans have to our closest evolutionary relatives? The Ezra and Cecile Zilkha Gallery at Wesleyan University presents a two-person exhibition in conjunction with The Ethics in Society Project entitled *Who's Looking?*, which provides an opportunity to explore these and other questions through photographs, film, theater, and words.

The exhibition, which runs from November 3 through December 2, 2007, includes photographs by Frank Noelker *Chimp Portraits 2002–2006*, and a photo installation by Lori Gruen *A Family Portrait 1920–2007*.

Admission to *Who's Looking* is free. The Ezra and Cecile Zilkha Gallery is located at 283 Washington Terrace in Middletown, CT. For more information or directions, call 860-685-3355 or visit www.wesleyan.edu/cfa.

The public is invited to attend the closing reception on Thursday, November 29 from 4:30–6 pm. A gallery talk by photographer Frank Noelker and Wesleyan Professor and project director Lori Gruen will take place at 5 pm. The public is also invited to attend a film screening of the Emmy Award-winning film *Chimpanzees: An Unnatural History* followed by a Q&A with filmmaker Allison Argo. the same evening at 8pm in the CFA Cinema.

(continued)

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Frank Noelker has been photographing animals in captivity for many years to show how their lives are completely affected by human intervention. *Chimp Portraits 2002-2006* reveals chimpanzees retired from biomedical research, the entertainment industry, and the pet trade. Noelker visited sanctuaries where the chimps now live a protected life and photographed them in their current situations. Noelker identifies each chimpanzee by name and tells his or her background story in accompanying texts. For more information on Frank Noelker, visit: <http://www.franknoelker.com>

Lori Gruen's installation consists of portraits of five generations of one chimpanzee's family. This chimpanzee, Darrell, is one Gruen has come to know through her research on human relations to chimpanzees. She traced Darrell's ancestry back to the very first chimpanzees used in research in the US, Pan and Dwina. By presenting Darrell's genealogy through family portraits, Gruen juxtaposes natural chimpanzee kinship with its distorting effects for chimpanzees in captivity. The installation is both familiar and disconcerting.

RELATED EVENT

Who's Looking? culminates with a panel discussion on Friday, November 30th from 11:30-1:30 in the Usdan Center room 108, on the Wesleyan campus.

The Center for the Arts is an 11-building complex on the Wesleyan campus that houses the departments of art and art history, music, theater and dance as well as film studies events and classes. The CFA includes the 400-seat Theater, the 260-seat Cinema, World Music Hall (a non-Western performance space), the 414-seat Crowell Concert Hall and the Ezra and Cecile Zilkha Gallery.

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