



PC GALLERIES AT PROVIDENCE COLLEGE



Mary Beth Meehan
Untitled image from *City of Champions:
A Portrait of Brockton, Massachusetts,*
2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT

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*print quality images available upon
request

PC GALLERIES

Hunt-Cavanagh Gallery
at Hunt-Cavanagh Hall,
Reilly Gallery
at the Smith Center for the Arts
Providence College
Providence, RI 02918
401.865.2418
pcgalleries@providence.edu
www.providence.edu/art/galleries

HOURS

Wednesday – Saturday, 12 – 6pm
Or by appointment

PC GALLERIES PRESENT...

CITY OF CHAMPIONS: A PORTRAIT OF BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS BY MARY BETH MEEHAN

Solo Exhibition at Reilly Gallery, November 5 – December 19, 2014

Public Reception: Thursday, November 20th, 6 – 8pm

Amidst her highschool marching band a young musician beams. A pair of elderly Irish Americans share in a moment of political victory. An undocumented immigrant peeks out from under his American flag bedcover. A wiry 17-year-old with big blue boxing gloves poses dauntlessly in front of the ring. These determined faces and diverse personalities are plentiful in Brockton, Massachusetts, a small city sometimes referred to as the “City of Champions” because of the success of native boxers Rocky Marciano and Marvin Hagler, as well as its successful highschool sports programs. But in recent decades, Brockton has become a city like many others, one plagued by dwindling industry and resources, unemployment, crime and drug use. Artist Mary Beth Meehan photographs and presents portraits of Brockton residents as an invitation for viewers, in this case the Providence College community and its visitors, to consider the changing identity of not just Brockton but of post-industrial cities throughout the United States and within the context of the historic American urban landscape. In its efforts to bring contemporary art and community exchange to the College campus and community at large, PC Galleries are pleased to present *City of Champions: A Portrait of Brockton, Massachusetts*, a solo exhibition of photography by Providence-based artist Mary Beth Meehan.

Mary Beth Meehan

Mary Beth Meehan (b. 1967, Brockton, Massachusetts) is a Providence-based photographer and educator who creates meaningful, in-depth portraits of her own communities. Her work addresses issues of immigration, culture, and change, and the emotional charge surrounding them. Meehan has exhibited nationally and internationally, and her photographs have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Boston Globe*, among other publications. She was a staff photographer at the Providence Journal from 1995 to 2001, and received awards from Pictures of the Year International and the National Conference for Community and Justice. She was also twice nominated for the Pulitzer Prize.

Many Cities, One Providence: Urban Art Exchange at PC Galleries

City of Champions: A Portrait of Brockton, Massachusetts is on view concurrently at PC Galleries with *Helsingistä*, a show of experimental printmaking by Valpuri Kylmänen and Ari Pelkonen from Helsinki, Finland. Both exhibitions are the first in the annual exhibition series Many Cities, One Providence: Urban Art Exchange at PC Galleries. The exhibition’s conjunctive programming—listed on the following page—is collaboratively presented by PC Galleries, PC’s Global Studies Program and Dorcas International Institute Rhode Island (DIIRI).



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Related Public Programs

Public Reception in conjunction with Gallery Night Providence

Thursday, November 20, 6-8pm, Reilly Gallery

My Story, Our Community

PC Galleries collaborates with the Providence College Global Studies program and the Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island's Welcoming Rhode Island initiative to host this semi-annual tribute to foreign-born Rhode Islanders. For more information and to RSVP before Friday, November 28, email maryellenlynch@diiri.org.

Class and Group Tours

PC Galleries offers guided tours for classes and groups of all ages. Class and group tours are free of charge but require reservation. For more information, to discuss the specific needs and interests of your class or group, and/or to schedule a tour of *City of Champions: A Portrait of Brockton, Massachusetts*, please contact PC Galleries at pcgalleries@providence.edu.

About PC Galleries

PC Galleries at Providence College present exhibitions and public programs focusing on contemporary art, innovative artistic practice and interdisciplinary cultural activity. Operating within two gallery spaces as part of the Department of Art & Art History, the Galleries support the educational, service and community-oriented mission of the College with dynamic visual arts productions, including those that foster audience participation, cross-departmental collaboration at the College and cultural exchange at local, national and international levels. The Galleries ultimately strive to produce projects by artists and intellectuals who demonstrate how and why creative practitioners are vital forces in promoting diversity and shaping contemporary global culture.

All PC Galleries exhibitions and public programs are free and open to the public.

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