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Project Gallery Exhibition Linda Connor Starfields and Constellations October 21 – December 4, 2004

Yancey Richardson Gallery is pleased to announce *Starfields and Constellations*, an exhibition of photographs by California-based Linda Connor. The images, ranging from constellations to comets to eclipses, both lunar and solar, were originally made by astronomers at the Lick Observatory in Mt. Hamilton, California at the turn of the 20th century and have been reinterpreted by Connor.

Since 1995 Connor has had special access to the archives at the Lick Observatory. The archive houses 8 x 10 inch glass plate negatives that date from as early as the 1880s. From this collection Connor has chosen to work with specific negatives from which she makes contact prints utilizing "printing out paper." "Printing out paper" was primarily used by photographers at the turn of the 20^{th} century, most notably Eugene Atget. Connor exposes the prints one at a time on site in the sun, neatly conflating process and subject.

Given the mutable quality of natural sunlight, the exposures vary and the prints differ one from another. Generally, the finished print presents a reversed image of the glass plate; thus the notations made by the original astronomer appear as abstract calligraphic elements. Connor has chosen to work also with broken glass plates whose pieces must be reassembled like a puzzle each time she makes a print; and with each print, the arrangement varies slightly thus altering the linear elements in the finished image.

Linda Connor has exhibited widely in the United States, Europe and Japan. She has received numerous awards including a John Simon Guggenheim Foundation grant and a National Endowment of the Arts grant. Her work is in the collections of many major museums, among them the Whitney Museum of Art, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Canadian Center for Photography, the Center for Creative Photography, and the Denver Art Museum.

For further information, call 646-230-9610 or write info@yanceyrichardson.com

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