



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Exhibition Opens at UMass Amherst's  
University Museum of Contemporary Art**

**Lynne Cohen: False Clues**

**January 23 – March 9, 2014**

Organized and circulated by the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal

Opening Reception: Wednesday, January 22, 2014, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Exhibition walkthrough and discussion with MACM Curator François LeTourneux at 6:00 p.m.

The exhibition **False Clues** features forty photographs by Montréal-based artist Lynne Cohen, ranging from the 1970s to more recently produced works. Known since the early 1970s for her photographs that suggest scale models or fabricated décors, she uses a view camera to photograph “ready-made” interior spaces, always empty of occupants, which the works’ titles usually do not specifically identify. Over the years, interiors and public or semi-public venues—skating rinks, hotel lobbies, men’s clubs—have given way to more complex, less readily accessible settings, such as classrooms, science laboratories or military installations. Whatever the (sometimes ominous) nature of the places pictured, the artist underscores the humour, artifice and illusion that lie therein, documenting her fascination with how the world echoes art.” Cohen, it should be mentioned, does not alter or intervene in any way in the sites she photographs. She explains her process this way: “None of my places appears real. But, then again, not much appears real when you step back and take a look... While I aim for a kind of deceptive neutrality in the way I photograph, the subject...is scarcely neutral.”

Born in 1944 in Racine, Wisconsin, Lynne Cohen studied at the University of Wisconsin and at Eastern Michigan University before moving to Ottawa in 1973. She has been based in Montréal since 2003. Her work has been shown in numerous solo and group exhibitions around the world and was the subject of a retrospective at the National Gallery of Canada, in Ottawa, in 2002, and at the Musée de l'Élysée, in Lausanne, Switzerland, in 2003. Among the many honors she has won are the Governor General's Award in Visual Arts and Media Arts, in 2005, and the Scotiabank Photography Award, in 2011.

The exhibition **Lynne Cohen: False Clues** is curated by François LeTourneux, MACM Associate Curator. A 72-page publication is produced in conjunction with this exhibition. It includes 18 color plates of works which are accompanied by the artist's comments.

The University Museum of Contemporary Art gratefully acknowledges the support of The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. The Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal wishes to acknowledge the support of the Department of Canadian Heritage Museums Assistance Program for the circulation of its exhibitions.

For more information, visit <https://fac.umass.edu/UMCA/Online/LynneCohen> or contact Betsey Wolfson at [bhwolfson@acad.umass.edu](mailto:bhwolfson@acad.umass.edu).

**University Museum of Contemporary Art**

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