

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Laura Letinsky: *After All***  
**September 16 – October 30, 2010**



The Yancey Richardson Gallery is pleased to present *After All*, an exhibition of photographs by Laura Letinsky that continues the artist's exploration of the still-life tradition, featuring selections from two recent bodies of work – “The Dog and the Wolf” and “Fall.” Formal elements characteristic of Letinsky's oeuvre – oblique lines of perspective and depth, juxtaposition of incongruent objects, exquisitely controlled gradations of light – are presented here as a backdrop upon which our ideas surrounding food, desire, and death are illuminated.

“The Dog and the Wolf” is a reference to the Aesop Fable of the same name, alluding to the tension between domesticity and a romanticization of the wild. This series, made at twilight as the brood of night approaches, touches upon a formal literalism as this time of day is known also by the phrase, “*le chien et le loup*.” Distinctions between comfort and danger are investigated in their relation to “home,” in all its abundance and denial. The few objects included in each image - dead animals, wilting flowers, the dried, peeled skin of an orange - emphasize these conflicts, identifying the photographs under a shroud of temporality. Reminiscent of 17<sup>th</sup> century Dutch vanitas, Letinsky's elegiac arrangements are a subdued meditation on the symbolic passage of day into night.

Taken one step further, Letinsky's most recent series – “Fall” – examines a singular, enigmatic strand of the relationship between food and mortality. Driven by the artist's thinking about last meals, the works are suggestive and abstracted considerations of what those meals would look or taste or even smell like. Drawn from real and fictional accounts of last meals, Letinsky's sparsely occupied picture planes are bathed in an eviscerating light that does more to obscure than reveal the picture space.

Born in Canada in 1962, Laura Letinsky received her MFA from Yale University in 1991 and was awarded a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship in 2000. Letinsky's work is held in the collections of the Stuttgart Museum, Germany, Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, The Art Institute of Chicago, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Amon Carter Museum, and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, among others. She has exhibited internationally, most recently in Rome, London and Germany. The exhibition coincides with the release of her third monograph, *After All*, by Grafiche Damiani. She is currently a professor at the University of Chicago.

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