

# CRISTIN TIERNEY



Janet Biggs

Art Basel Miami Beach: Film

December 3 – 6, 2015

Cristin Tierney Gallery is pleased to present a selection of videos by **Janet Biggs** at **Art Basel Miami Beach Film**. Included in the fair's nightly Short Film program, *Duet* and *Vanishing Point* will be screened outdoors in SoundScape Park on the 7,000-square-foot projection wall of the Frank Gehry-designed New World Center. *Duet* will be shown at 8:00 pm on Friday, December 4th, and *Vanishing Point* will be screened at 8:00 pm on Saturday, December 5th. *Duet* and *Vanishing Point* will also be on view in the fair's designated Film Library alongside two other videos by Biggs: *A Step on the Sun* and *Can't Find My Way Home*. The artist will attend both outdoor screenings.

Curated by David Gryn, this year's Art Basel Film program is titled *Our Hidden Futures*. The works presented explore the unknown and the unseen, and, in Biggs' case, life on the periphery. Many of her works show people engaged in extreme activities. She has captured such events as speeding motorcycles on the Bonneville Salt Flats, racecars

# CRISTIN TIERNEY

flying around a NASCAR track, kayaks performing a synchronized ballet in Arctic waters, sulfur miners inside an active volcano, and a camel caravan crossing the Taklamakan desert of Western China. Immersed in these intense and often hostile environments, Biggs grapples with themes of identity construction, memory, and perception. Utilizing arresting visual juxtapositions and image sequencing, her videos evoke larger metaphors for the human condition.

*Duet*, for example, contrasts NASCAR pit crew footage with classical musicians to examine the fragile divide between chaos and control. A sulfur miner working in the Ijen volcano becomes a provocative mixture of natural beauty and human exploitation in *A Step on the Sun*. In her most recent work *Can't Find My Way Home*, Biggs juxtaposes footage from the German Merkers salt mine with that of neurological research conducted in laboratories. In each work, Biggs' editing and arrangement of scenes illuminate and reinforce the private worlds of her subjects.

Janet Biggs is an American artist, known primarily for her work in video, photography, and performance. She has had solo exhibitions and film screenings at the Blaffer Museum of Art, Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Tampa Museum of Art, Skulpturenmuseum Glaskasten Marl, Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Mint Museum of Art, Everson Museum of Art, Gibbes Museum of Art, and the Rhode Island School of Design Museum, among others. Her work was featured in the first International Biennial of Contemporary Art in Cartagena, Colombia, and the first Biennale art nOmad. She is the recipient of numerous grants, including the Electronic Media and Film Program at the New York State Council on the Arts Award, the Arctic Circle Fellowship/Residency, Art Matters, Inc., the Wexner Center Media Arts Program Residency, the Anonymous Was a Woman Award, and the NEA Fellowship Award. Her work appears in the collections of the Fonds Régional d'Art Contemporain (FRAC), Zabłudowicz Collection, Skulpturenmuseum Glaskasten Marl (Ruhr Kunst Museen), Tampa Museum of Art, the High Museum, Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Mint Museum of Art, Gibbes Museum of Art, and the New Britain Museum of Art. Biggs lives and works in New York.

For any inquiries please contact Candace Moeller at 212.594.0550 or [candace@crisintierney.com](mailto:candace@crisintierney.com).

# CRISTIN TIERNEY

## Outdoor Short Film Program

### *Duet*

Friday, December 4th

8:00 pm

### *Vanishing Point*

Saturday, December 5th

8:00 pm

### VENUE

SoundScape Park

New World Center

500 17th Street

Miami Beach, FL 33139

## Art Basel Miami Beach Film Library

Open daily from December 3rd through December 6th

### VENUE

Miami Beach Convention Center

1901 Convention Center Drive

Miami Beach, FL 33139