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MULTI-MEDIA ARTIST JEN EVERETT PRESENTS NEW ARRANGEMENTS AT THE SHELDON

ST. LOUIS – The Sheldon Art Galleries presents Jen Everett – New Arrangements, November 6, 2020 – January 30, 2021 in the Gallery of Photography. A free public opening will be held Friday, November 6 from 12 - 9 p.m. Visitor capacity for the opening will be limited to 10 visitors per 15-minute time slot. Advanced registration is required at TheSheldon.org/events/fallopening/. Registration ends at 10 a.m. on November 6. Gallery hours are Tuesdays – Fridays, Noon – 5 p.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Admission is free. Visitor capacity will be limited to 25% or less of full capacity. Reservations are not required or accepted for regular public hours. All staff and visitors age 9 and older will be required to wear masks while visiting the galleries. For more information on exhibitions and health and safety guidelines, visit TheSheldon.org.

Jen Everett’s practice encompasses lens-based media, installation and writing that considers the relationship between the notion of “rupture” and Black interiority using gestures of collection and reconfiguration. New Arrangements is comprised of two recent bodies of work: Redoubled/Something We Carry and Unheard Sounds, Come Through. Everett says, “The process of making this work reminds me that the Black interior is boundless and the mundane can be deeply complex. It helps me to remember that images and objects can be remade, reordered and therefore transformed.”

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Sheldon Art Galleries / Jen Everett – New Arrangements  
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As an artist, who is also a woman, Black and queer, Everett uses the idea of rupture as a conceptual framework within her practice, letting it guide her thinking and treatment of material. The artist says, “For marginalized communities and Black Americans specifically, rupture is familiar and precarious. Historically, Black people respond to the space that rupture makes through a rigorous, interdisciplinary, creative tradition which serves as a strategy for survival, a way to produce and transmit knowledge as well as to find joy.”

Working with still and moving images, objects and text, Everett gathers and re-configures this material though gestures of collection and arrangement, repetition, transfer, crop and distortion. These images and objects hold meaning that is at times elusive and always complicated.

Originally from Southfield, Michigan, Everett received an M.F.A. from Washington University in St. Louis where she was a Chancellor’s Graduate Fellow in the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts. She earned a Bachelor of Architecture from Tuskegee University. Her work has been shown at the Krannert Art Museum, Seattle University’s Hedreen Gallery, SPRING/BREAK Art Show New York, Leo Model Gallery at Hampshire College, Vox Populi – Philadelphia and Gallery 102 in Washington, D.C.

Everett’s work has been presented during lectures at the Saint Louis Art Museum and Harvard University and has appeared in Transition and SPOOK magazines. Her work was published in Color Theory (Wolfman Books, 2019) and Undertow (Silent Face Projects, 2018). She has been an artist in residence at the Vermont Studio Center, Atlantic Center for the Arts and ACRE. Her work is in the collection of the Museum of Contemporary Photography (MoCP) at Columbia College - Chicago.

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Image caption: Jen Everett, Untitled, 2020, 10"x 8." Archival pigment print.