



OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY  
**MUSEUM of ART**

News Release | For Immediate Release

Contact: Jordan Hays, 405-744-2783 or [jordan.griffis@okstate.edu](mailto:jordan.griffis@okstate.edu)

**REBECCA DROLLEN PRESENTS PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK EXPLORING  
PORTRAITURE, CONSTRUCTED NARRATIVES, TOPICS OF IDENTITY**

**(STILLWATER, Okla., Feb. 5, 2018)** —Rebecca Drolen will visit the Oklahoma State University Museum of Art this month to present an artist talk, introduce her exhibition of photographic work, and continue an ongoing collaboration with OSU students.

Drolen's photographic work explores portraiture and constructed narratives, using the element of truth that a photograph carries in order to validate scenes. A discussion of how individuals assemble their identity is paramount to her work. She has a particular fascination with hair, and the role it plays in the discussion. Visitors are invited to learn more during an artist talk on Thursday, Feb 15, at 5:30 pm.

The artist talk also celebrates the opening of *Factory*, an exhibition that explores a fictional setting where hair and other features are added to the body as a means of protection, defense, or disguise. On view from Feb. 15 – April 7, it showcases five works by Drolen and serves as a point of departure for a collaborative piece created by OSU students. The students, currently enrolled in Photography 1 and 2 taught by Andy Mattern, have been working remotely with Drolen since the beginning of the semester. The programming will continue in person during the artist's visit to Stillwater, and the students' final collaborative work will be installed in the museum on Feb. 28. More information is available at [museum.okstate.edu/factory](http://museum.okstate.edu/factory).

**Artist Bio:**

Drolen received her MFA in Photography from Indiana University in 2009. Before joining the art department at the University of Arkansas in the Fall of 2015, she worked with several institutions including the University of Georgia, Michigan State University, and Belmont University.

Drolen's photographs have been shown in group and solo exhibitions on a national and international level, within noteworthy venues such as the Huffington Post, Oxford American's "Eyes on the South," the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, Texas Tech University, CICA Museum in Gimpo, Korea, and the Theory of Clouds Gallery in Kobe, Japan. Drolen has had work published in various art magazines and blogs and has work in private collections as well as in the permanent collection at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, Louisiana.

## **About the OSU Museum of Art**

For more information about the OSU Museum of Art, visit [museum.okstate.edu](http://museum.okstate.edu) or call 405-744-2780. The museum is located at 720 S. Husband Street in downtown Stillwater. Hours: Tuesday through Saturday from 11 am to 4 pm. Thursday: 11 am to 7 pm. Admission is free, thanks to generous support from the OSU Museum of Art Advocates.

*Oklahoma State University is a modern land-grant university that prepares students for success. OSU is America's Brightest Orange. Through leadership and service, OSU is preparing students for a bright future and building a brighter world for all. As Oklahoma's only university with a statewide presence, OSU improves the lives of people in Oklahoma, the nation, and the world through integrated, high-quality teaching, research, and outreach. As America's Healthiest Campus, OSU is committed to the health and well-being of its students, employees and the community. OSU has more than 36,000 students across its five-campus system and more than 25,000 on its combined Stillwater and Tulsa campuses, with students from all 50 states and around 120 nations. Established in 1890, OSU has graduated around 255,000 students to serve the state of Oklahoma, the nation and the world.*

