



BASTIENNE SCHMIDT: *HOME STILLS*

January 19 - March 16, 2012

Opening reception: Thursday, January 19, 6 – 8PM

Artist's talk at 7pm

ARC Fine Art LLC is pleased to announce the upcoming exhibition of a series of photographs by Bastienne Schmidt titled *Home Stills*. This second solo presentation of Schmidt's work at the gallery will open January 19, 2012 with an artist's reception and talk. *Home Stills*, featuring twenty-two limited edition c-prints, will captivate viewers' attention through the artist's visual explorations of identities, motherhood, suburbia, and the universality of women.

Both a photographer and mixed-media artist, Bastienne Schmidt is represented in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art, the International Center of Photography, the Brooklyn Museum, the Victoria and Albert Museum, and the Biblioteque Nationale. Her work has been featured nationally and internationally in over fifty exhibitions and has been the subject of four monographs, among them *Vivir la Muerte*, *American Dreams*, *ShadowHome* and *Home Stills*. *ShadowHome* was awarded The Best Photo Book Prize in Germany in 2005. Her latest monograph, *Home Stills*, was published in 2010. Working with large-scale drawings, film stills, and photographs, this body of work depicts an ironic view into female gender roles and was the subject of a solo exhibition at the Southeast Museum of Photography in Florida, which will travel to Houston in the spring of 2012. Select images from the *Home Stills* series were also presented in the windows of Bergdorf Goodman, NY and exhibited at Harper's, East Hampton, NY where they received critical acclaim and praise in numerous East End publications.

In *Home Stills*, the ideas precede the images. Schmidt delves into in-depth philosophical questions emerging from her lived experience and then translates visually through intricately staged photographs. Each photograph heightens the viewers' awareness from a world familiar to them to a world informed by the phenomena. Schmidt is the subject of each staged photograph, which are composed in landscapes and interiors of places on her well-trodden path. While many scenes depict the spaces of her home and work place on the East End of Long Island, others reveal an investigation of more foreign residences- Texas and Greece. However, specificity of place plays a secondary role in these works, which are more significantly informed by a discerning use of color and composition and by the conception of a particular psychology.

ARC Fine Art is located at 3113 Bronson Road in Fairfield, Connecticut and is open by appointment. Further inquiries, please contact Adrienne Ruger Conzelman at 203 895 9595.