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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## SHELDON EXHIBIT FEATURES PHOTOGRAPHS OF FAMILY FARMS BY SANDI HABER FIFIELD

ST. LOUIS, MO - The Sheldon Art Galleries presents *Sandi Haber Fifield: Between Planting and Picking*, October 4, 2013- January 4, 2014 in the Gallery of Photography. Join us for an opening reception on Friday, October 4, 2013 from 5 – 7 p.m.; Galleries will be open until 9 p.m. for First Fridays in Grand Center, a monthly event in which galleries and museums in Grand Center are open late. Admission is free. **Gallery Talk:** Saturday, October 5, 2013, 10:30 a.m. Sandi Haber Fifield will provide an overview of her work from the past 30 years and will discuss influences that led to *Between Planting and Picking*. Gallery of Photography, admission free. **The exhibition is made possible in part by Barbara and Arthur McDonnell.**



Connecticut-based photographer Sandi Haber Fifield photographed family-owned farms across the United States from 2009 to 2010. Her lyrical images use the agricultural landscape to create a complex vocabulary of visual associations that speak equally about the humanity of these places and about artistic self-discovery. Haber writes: *“I’m drawn to the authenticity of small farm life that congregates along the margins in myriad cast-off moments: sunlight on muslin seed bags, wooden crates, plastic mesh, buckets, pots, hoses, a lunar planting calendar, quirky signage. As I made more and more pictures, the candid beauty and improvised quality I discovered in the unkempt edges of these small farm environments became a focus. I hope it is within the banal details, unsuspecting and unnoticed, that a narrative unfolds, showing the beauty in the randomness and the re-purposing. To me, there is a metaphor in the unending cycle of growth and harvest for my own image making.”*

Sandi Haber Fifield received her MFA from Rochester Institute of Technology. She has widely exhibited her photographs in galleries throughout the United States and been included in exhibitions at museums such as The Art Institute of Chicago, The DeCordova Museum, The Museum of Modern Art, The Museum of Contemporary Photography, The Oakland Museum, The Southeast Museum of Photography and The St. Louis Museum. Her work is held in several private and public collections, including The Brooklyn Museum, The George Eastman House, The High Museum, The Library of Congress, The Los Angeles County Museum, The Museum of Modern Art and The New Britain Museum.

MORE...

Sheldon Art Galleries/ *Sandi Haber Fifield: Between Planting and Picking*  
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In 2009 Charta published Haber Fifield's first monograph of grids and multiple image installations, *Walking through the World. Between Planting and Picking* (also Charta), was released in March 2011. Additionally, Haber Fifield's work has appeared in *Fabrications: Staged, Altered, and Appropriated Photographs* (Anne Hoy, Abbeville, 1988), *Picturing California* (Therese Heyman, Oakland Museum/Chronicle Books, 1989), *Defining Eye: Women Photographers of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century* (Olivia Lahs-Gonzales, the Saint Louis Art Museum), *The Photography of Invention* (Joshua P. Smith, Merry Foresta (MIT Press) and her recently released monograph, *After the Threshold* (Kehrer Verlag, 2013, Vicki Goldberg, essayist). Sandi Haber Fifield's work is represented in New York by Rick Wester Fine Art and in Boston by Gallery Kayafas.

The not-for-profit Sheldon Art Galleries exhibits works by local, national and international artists in all media. Over 6,000 square feet of the galleries' spaces on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor are permanently devoted to rotating exhibits of photography, architecture, jazz art and history, and children's art. A sculpture garden, seen from both the atrium lobby and the connecting glass bridge, features periodic rotations and installations, and the Nancy Spirtas Kranzberg Gallery on the lower level features art of all media. The Sheldon actively supports the work of St. Louis artists in all mediums and features a dedicated gallery with museum-quality exhibits by St. Louis artists, past and present.

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Image credit: Sandi Haber Fifield, *Red Orb and Fence Post*, Beetleburg Farm, Chilmark, MA, September, 2009. Courtesy of the Artist and Rick Wester Fine Art, New York.