

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **South Hosts "Your Witness" by Photographers Rafael Soldi and Jenny Riffle**

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Rafael Soldi and Jenny Riffle both present large-format color photographs documenting their younger sisters. “I have been photographing my sister Emily since the day I picked up a camera,” writes Riffle, “she has been my most constant muse.” Equally, Soldi has been documenting his younger sister Micaela’s coming-of-age for the last five years. Both artists are separated by a decade from their subjects and have watched through the lens as they grow from child to young adult.

Soldi writes, “In 1996 Micaela changed my family by the mere act of being born; it bound it in the most powerful of ways. Over the years I’ve watched my sister grow, and allowed for the generation gap to trigger in me an interest in recording her coming-of-age. We live in different continents and it is difficult to watch her grow from afar.”

Rafael Soldi is a Peruvian-born, Seattle based photographer. He holds BFA in Photography & Curatorial Studies from the Maryland Institute College of Art. Soldi’s work has been exhibited internationally and published in PDNedu, Identities Now: Contemporary Portrait Photography, Gutter Magazine, Flak Photo and Humble Arts Foundation. He is a 2012 Magenta Foundation Flash Forward Award US winner. His work is in the permanent collection of the Tacoma Art Museum and numerous private collections.

Jenny Riffle has photographed her sister on her birthday every year since 2005 and writes; “My sister and I are eleven years apart, which allows me to watch her from a distance, instead of going through the same growing pains as she is. I compare and contrast our lives and study her with special intensity and fascination as she grows into a young woman, losing the innocence of childhood.”

Jenny Riffle is Seattle-based photography and holds BA from Bard College and an MFA from the School of Visual Arts. She received the juror’s award at Newspace Center for Photography’s 2012 juried exhibition and was awarded a solo show in 2013. Her work has been exhibited nationally and she has been published in The Collector's Guide to Emerging Art Photography, The Stranger and Visionaire.

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*The mission of the South Seattle Community College Art Gallery is to introduce students and the community at large to unique artists and their works. Receptions are given to afford the opportunity of interacting with the artists. The local and campus community is encouraged to visit the Art Gallery to enjoy the inspiring works of art.*

Admission is always free and open to the public. For gallery hours and information about future exhibits, visit <http://studentlife.southseattle.edu/art.html>

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