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Guide to the Into the Woods

GEN MSS 1469



Matthew Daniel Mason

May 2018

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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CALL NUMBER: GEN MSS 1469

CREATOR: Halverson, Karen, 1941- , photographer

TITLE: Into the Woods

DATES: 2014-2015

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 2.17 linear feet (1 box)

LANGUAGE: In English

SUMMARY: Ten photographs of trees in Columbia County, New York, created by Karen Halverson in 2014-2015. The photographer introduced tree flagging tape into the scenes with a range of colors.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.intothewoods>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.intothewoods>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Karen Halverson on the Frederick W. and Carrie S. Beinecke Fund for Western Americana, 2016.

Conditions Governing Access

This material is open for research.

Ownership & Copyright

The Karen Halverson, *Into the Woods*, are the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Karen Halverson, *Into the Woods*. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Processing Notes

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit. These materials have been arranged and described according to national and local standards. For more information, please refer to the Beinecke Manuscript Unit Processing Manual. Each folder in the collection contains a single inkjet print.

Karen Halverson (born 1941)

Karen Halverson is a documentary landscape photographer. Born in Syracuse, New York, Halverson received a Bachelor of Arts from Stanford University and Masters of Arts from Brandeis University and Columbia University. In 1975, she made her first photographic project, which documented the Garment District in New York City. Much of her work documents the tension between the natural and cultural landscapes of the American West. She is the author of *Downstream: Encounters with the Colorado River* (University of California Press, 2008), which retraces the route of John Wesley Powell's expeditions and explores what contemporary Americans have made of the waterway.

Description of Papers

Ten photographs of trees in Columbia County, New York, created by Karen Halverson in 2014-2015, and printed as color inkjet prints on Canson Platine Fibre Rag Paper, 20 x 24 inches (51 x 61 centimeters). In the photographs, she introduced tree flagging tape into the scenes with a range of colors. The prints are untitled with number sequences provided by Halverson to differentiate images. The collection comprises an edition numbered three of twelve.

In an artist's statement that accompanied the collection upon acquisition in 2016, Halverson describes the work:

It started with plastic tape I found attached to trees in South Carolina, strips of hot pink and blue punctuating the greens and browns of mighty oaks. Property markers, yes, but also adornment. Back home in New York State, I searched for colored tapes in the woods, but found very few. It was March, the landscape brown, the sky mostly gray. I craved color and the hardware store had it.

For the first time in many years of photographing landscape, I began introducing things into the field of view. I found that a single stroke of alien color would draw the eye into and around the photographic frame. I think of the tape or other material as a flourish, like a musical grace note, with the landscape retaining the upper hand. We humans have always made our marks on the land, one way or another. We claim territory, designate what's to be preserved or removed; we indicate the route, and we alter or add to what's there for the sake of visual pleasure. In these photographs, the introduced elements reference human intervention in the natural environment. But, of course, they are also a self-reference. I choose a location, experiment with

my materials, and in time arrive at a photograph. Then, I gather my materials and leave things as they were. Would that all human interventions in the landscape were so benign.

Arrangement

Arranged by the creator.

Collection Contents

Into the Woods, 2014

Ten photographs of trees in Columbia County, New York, created by Karen Halverson in 2014-2015, and printed as color inkjet prints on Canson Platine Fibre Rag Paper, 20 x 24 inches (51 x 61 centimeters). In the photographs, she introduced flagging tape into the images with a range of colors. The prints are untitled with number sequences provided by Halverson to differentiate images. The collection comprises an edition numbered three of twelve.

Arranged by the creator.

b. 1, f. 1	<i>Untitled, 4-29-14-68</i>	2014
b. 1, f. 2	<i>Untitled, 10-15-14-2242</i>	2014
b. 1, f. 3	<i>Untitled, 1-23-15-2531</i>	2015
b. 1, f. 4	<i>Untitled, 4-28-14-1119</i>	2014
b. 1, f. 5	<i>Untitled, 4-22-14-18</i>	2014
b. 1, f. 6	<i>Untitled, 10-7-14-2047</i>	2014
b. 1, f. 7	<i>Untitled, 2-10-15-25658</i>	2015
b. 1, f. 8	<i>Untitled, 8-20-14-1593</i>	2014
b. 1, f. 9	<i>Untitled, 10-29-14-2272</i>	2014
b. 1, f. 10	<i>Untitled, 10-13-14-2113</i>	2014

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Photography of trees -- New York (State) --
Columbia County -- Pictorial works
Trees -- New York (State) -- Columbia County --
Pictorial works

Geographic Names

Columbia County (N.Y.) -- Pictorial works
New York (State) -- Pictorial works

Genres / Formats

Inkjet prints
Photographs

Names

Halverson, Karen, 1941-

Acquired From

Halverson, Karen, 1941- , bookseller