

PRESS RELEASE



Cody Perkins, *Contested Ground*, inkjet print, 2024

Contested Ground

An Exhibition by Taylor Dorrell and Cody Perkins
In Conjunction with the 2024 Fotofocus Biennial

September 27—October 25, 2024
McClure Gallery, Art Academy of Cincinnati
1212 Jackson St., Cincinnati, OH 45202

Public Reception: Friday, September 27, 5—8pm

The Art Academy of Cincinnati is pleased to present *Contested Ground*, a [Fotofocus Biennial](#) exhibition by AAC alums Taylor Dorrell and Cody Perkins.

About the Artists:

Taylor Dorrell earned a BFA in photography from the Art Academy of Cincinnati in 2017. Taylor is a freelance writer and photographer, contributing writer at the Cleveland Review of Books, reporter at the Columbus Free Press, columnist at Matter News, and organizer in the Freelance Solidarity Project union. (www.taylordorrell.com)

Cody Perkins was born in Kentucky in 1995. He went on to study photography and received his BFA from the Art Academy of Cincinnati in 2018. Perkins has exhibited his work in the US and abroad, including work in shows at Praxis Gallery in Minneapolis, at Unseen Gallery in Amsterdam, and at the Alice F. and Harris K. Weston Art Gallery in Cincinnati. Perkins currently lives and works in the Greater Cincinnati area. (www.codyperkins.net)

About the Exhibition: *Contested Ground* is a photo series of landscapes and portraits by Art Academy of Cincinnati alumni photographers Taylor Dorrell and Cody Perkins, which takes on the spatial impact of the Amazon facilities in Greater Cincinnati. Economic investments are often relegated to abstract numbers and historical parallels, both relying on an obscure notion of time. As workers at these facilities are engaged in a struggle to unionize, abstract issues are brought into the material world. These massive facilities are built in spaces that people interact with every day, transforming highways, roads, and individual lives.

Through color photography, *Contested Ground* mixes the economic, spatial, and class dynamics of the Amazon boom, while employees in the Northern Kentucky facility seek union recognition and a fair contract.

To learn more about **Fotofocus** and the **2024 Fotofocus Biennial**, *backstories*, visit <https://www.fotofocus.org/biennial/2024/>

Gallery Hours:

Monday through Friday 9am—9pm, Saturday and Sunday 9am—5pm

Gallery admission and reception are free and open to the public

Contact: exhibitions@artacademy.edu, 513-562-6262

About Us: Art Academy of Cincinnati, established in 1869, is an independent college of art and design. Degrees granted are the Associate of Science in Graphic Design; the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Creative Writing, Design, Illustration, Painting and Drawing, Photography, Print Media, and Sculpture; and the Master of Arts in Art Education. Accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, the Art Academy is a charter member of both NASAD and the Association of Independent Colleges of Art and Design. The Art Academy is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the Greater Cincinnati Collegiate Connection. The Art Academy's Office of Engagement department offers extensive visual arts courses to children, teens, and adults, including a Portfolio Preparation program and an award-winning summer camp. The Art Academy of Cincinnati is located in historic Over-the-Rhine at 1212 Jackson Street Cincinnati, OH 45202. Please visit www.artacademy.edu.