RINGLING COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN, GALLERIES AND EXHIBITIONS
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MEDIA CONTACT: Tim Jaeger
Campus and Community Engagement Manager
RINGLING COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN
2700 N. TAMAMI TRAIL
SARASOTA, FL 34234-5895
TJAEGER@RINGLING.EDU
941.359.7562

VIRGINIA HOFFMAN: VANISHING OLD FLORIDA

Patricia Thompson Alumni Gallery – Ringling College of Art and Design
October 18 - December 17, 2019
Opening Reception, Friday, October 18, 5-8pm

ABOUT: Florida has an industrial legacy of abandoned phosphate mines and company towns, which have become mythical ghost towns. Finding these gems or “time capsules” as photographer, Virginia Hoffman refers to them, can be by careful research or simply freewheeling from several years spent traveling the Florida back roads.

In the upcoming exhibition, Vanishing Old Florida, on view in the Patricia Thompson Alumni Gallery at Ringling College of Art and Design, Virginia Hoffman (class of 1978), features more than 2 dozen images of the bucolic geography and the mesmerizing clouds of the disappearing Old Florida vernacular Cracker houses and barns.

Hoffman’s approach to photography consists of a unique blend of traditional compositions captured through the new world of digital media. The featured works are a collection of archival digital prints, hand crafted platinum palladium and cyanotype prints. The later are classical archival photo processes developed by the inventors of early 19th century photo printing.

BIO: Born in 1955, Virginia Hoffman grew up on a small self-sustaining farm in Montague, New Jersey, where she wandered the hills of the Delaware Valley for a time, giving her many cherished memories. The family moved to Florida in 1967, where she took her first classes in art and also developed a passion for music.

As she progressed in school, Virginia chose to major in art, a decision made without question. After one year focusing on Fine Arts at the University of Florida she attended the Ringling School of Art from 1975-78. Here she majored in Graphic Design, where photography played an important role.

Following art school, became well known in Sarasota for her work in the high-end interior design industry through her one-of-a-kind sculptural furniture, stand-alone sculpture, and
architectural glass works.

Entering into a phase of personal creativity and civic involvement, Virginia now devotes considerable time working in digital photography has been a journey of discovery, by learning and exploring this craft on even deeper levels. Her black and white images reflect and echo the legacy of traditional photography, but she also enjoys pushing the boundaries of expression with all the possibilities that the new world of digital media makes accessible.

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For more information on receptions, talks and events:
941.359.7563
galleries@ringling.edu
www.ringling.edu/galleries

The Patricia Thompson Gallery is located in the Keating Center at 2700 N. Tamiami Trail on the Ringling College campus in Sarasota, Florida. Open M-F, 8:30am-4pm, closed all major holidays.

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