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MEDIA RELEASE



MoPA Presents

Picturing the Process: The Photograph As Witness

August 1, 2009 - February 6, 2010

(San Diego, CA) - For Immediate Release

EVENT SUMMARY:

The Museum of Photographic Arts (MoPA) is proud to present *Picturing the Process: The Photograph as Witness*, on view August 1, 2009 through February 6, 2010. As part of an ongoing exhibition series organized by MoPA's Education Department, *Picturing the Process* presents works from MoPA's permanent collection in new, fresh and innovative ways to engage a broad range of audiences, from students and educators, to photography professionals and enthusiasts, as well as the general public.

EXHIBITION DETAILS:

With the development of photographic technologies in the early 19th century, artists began to use the camera to create a visual record of the world around them. The photograph captures an accurate and detailed moment in reality, something that no other medium can do. At the time of its invention, people believed that the camera, and thus the photograph, could not lie. However, throughout the history of photography as an art form, this concept has proved itself to be controversial. *The Photograph as Witness* will present a selection of approaches to the genre of documentary photography, from the image as a representation of war, photographs that focus on the human condition, and photographers who document the public and personal spheres. The exhibition will also examine the relationship between the documentary image and the concept of the photograph as reality.

The exhibition will include works by photographers such as Dorothea Lange, Gary Winogrand, Margaret Bourke-White, Lewis Hine, Sally Mann, W. Eugene Smith, and Harry Callahan. *The Photograph as Witness* will include a variety of photographic processes including pigment, gelatin silver, albumen, and chromogenic prints. Additionally, this exhibition will feature a learning station that will provide books and/or gallery activities for the audience. In addition, curriculum materials and lesson plans will be available to educators through the museum's website.

MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTS

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Press Opportunities

Exhibition and installation images are available for press reproduction in various high resolution formats. Please contact Aki Martin, Marketing & Communications Coordinator at 619-238-7559, ext. 203 or via email (martin@mopa.org) with any press-related needs.

MoPA Information

The Museum of Photographic Arts (MoPA) is one of the few museums in the country devoted to photography, film and video. Since its founding in 1983, MoPA has been dedicated to collecting, preserving and exhibiting the entire spectrum of the photographic medium. The museum's endeavors consistently address cultural, historical and social issues through its exhibitions and public programs.

Visit **www.mopa.org** for information about exhibitions, programs and special events.

- **Hours:** Tuesday through Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Closed Mondays.
- **Gallery admission:** \$6 adults; \$4 students, seniors and military; FREE to members and children under 12. Admission is free to the public on the second Tuesday of the month.
- **Docent Tours** for student groups (elementary through college) are available free of charge with advance reservations. Tours for non-students are also available, with advance reservations, at a discounted admission rate.

The Museum of Photographic Arts is accredited by the **American Association of Museums** and is a member-supported, private, non-profit institution. Additional support for museum programs is provided in part by the **City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture, the Joan and Irwin Jacobs Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation, the Weingart-Price Fund, the San Diego Foundation, Patrons of the Prado, and the National Endowment for the Arts.**

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