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The Annenberg Space for Photography Announces Programming in Support of BEAUTY CULTURE Exhibit Opening May 21, 2011

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SOURCE The Annenberg Foundation

Programming Includes Digital Films, a Virtual Makeover Salon and the IRIS Nights Lecture Series

LOS ANGELES, May 19, 2011 /PRNewswire/ -- The Annenberg Space for Photography is offering additional programming to enrich the **BEAUTY CULTURE** exhibit including digital films, which expand on the themes of the exhibit; the **BEAUTY CULTURE** Digital Salon, where guests can experiment with virtual makeovers; and the IRIS Nights lecture series, presenting top fashion, beauty and pop culture photographers and editors.

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BEAUTY CULTURE is a photographic exploration of how feminine beauty is defined, challenged and revered in modern society. The exhibit features works from iconic photographers such as Albert Watson, Bert Stern, Herb Ritts, Man Ray, Jean-Paul Goude, ORLAN, Guy Bourdin, Horst, Melvin Sokolsky, Ellen von Unwerth, Lillian Bassman, Matthew Rolston, Philippe Halsman, Lauren Greenfield, Susan Anderson, Tyen and Carrie May Weems. **BEAUTY CULTURE** encourages a social dialogue about the allure and mystique of the pursuit of female beauty, as well as the cult-like glorification and multi-billion dollar industries that surround it.

In addition to the 175 images on display in the Print Gallery, hundreds more images from the **BEAUTY CULTURE** photographers fill the Digital Gallery's larger-than-life, high-resolution screens in a digital slideshow.

The exhibition is accompanied by a short documentary film directed by acclaimed photographer and award-winning documentarian Lauren Greenfield. The digital film brings the print exhibit's themes to life and features interviews with well-known photographers, models, historians and beauty experts who guide visitors on a fascinating photographic exploration of the culture – and cult – of beauty.

Voice of the Photographer video segments share interviews with the exhibit's four featured photographers – Lauren Greenfield, Melvin Sokolsky, Tyen and Albert Watson.

The Photography Space has also created an interactive **BEAUTY CULTURE** Digital Salon. Guests can alter an image of themselves by changing their hair style, hair color and eye color and by applying cosmetics. They can explore the idea of the beauty of facial symmetry by applying a filter to average the two sides of their face. Visitors can then choose to email or upload to Facebook their "before" or "after" image.

The Photography Space continues its popular weekly IRIS Nights lecture series. Visitors can hear first-hand from photographers and other professionals about their experiences in the industry and their perspectives on photography's role in the definition of beauty. Guest speakers include Jill Greenberg, Melvin Sokolsky, Susan Anderson, Lauren Greenfield and Davis Factor, among others. The IRIS Nights lecture series takes place Thursday evenings in the Photography Space and is free to the public with advance registration. The current schedule is listed below. Additional lectures will be announced later this summer.

IRIS NIGHTS LECTURE SERIES SCHEDULE

October 20, 2011, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Public Lecture: Mona Kuhn

Mona Kuhn's photographic work has been exhibited, and is included in public and private collections, both internationally and in the United States. Her figurative work is focused on redefining ways of looking at the body, as a residence to ourselves.

October 27, 2011, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Public Lecture: Elaine D'Farley and Philip Gelter

As *SELF Magazine's* beauty director, Elaine D'Farley researches the hottest brands and latest trends to create quality beauty editorial. She will be joined by photo critic Philip Gelter.

November 3, 2011, 6:30 – 8:00 PM

Public Lecture: Lauren Greenfield

Named as one of the 25 most influential photographers of our time by *American PHOTO*, Lauren Greenfield was commissioned to create the **BEAUTY CULTURE** documentary film due to her extensive work capturing youth culture, body image and the effects of consumerism.

November 10, 2011, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Public Lecture: Frank W. Ockenfels

Over nearly two decades, Frank Ockenfels has photographed musicians, celebrities and corporate leaders. His images have graced the covers of *Rolling Stone*, *Esquire*, *Premiere*, *Blender*, *Newsweek*, *Wired*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *Spin*, *New York Magazine*, and *Gear* and have also appeared in *W*, *Outside*, and *UK Conde Nast Traveler*.

BEAUTY CULTURE runs from May 21, 2011 through November 27, 2011.

Annenberg Space for Photography

2000 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA 90067

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<http://www.annenbergsspaceforphotography.org>

Wednesday through Sunday: 11 AM - 6 PM; Closed Monday and Tuesday.

General admission is free.

About the Annenberg Space for Photography

The Annenberg Space for Photography is a cultural destination dedicated to exhibiting compelling photography. The Space conveys a range of human experiences and serves as an expression of the philanthropic work of the Annenberg Foundation and its Directors. The intimate environment features state-of-the-art, high-definition digital technology as well as traditional prints by some of the world's most renowned and emerging photographers. The exhibits change three times a year. It is the first solely photographic cultural destination in the Los Angeles area.

About the Annenberg Foundation

The Annenberg Foundation is a private family foundation that provides funding and support to nonprofit organizations in the United States and globally. Since 1989, it has generously funded programs in education and youth development; arts, culture and humanities; civic and community life; health and human services; and animal services and the environment. In addition, the Foundation and its Board of Directors are directly involved in the community with several projects that expand and complement its grant support to nonprofits. Among them are innovative nonprofit capacity building initiatives, the Annenberg Space for Photography, Explore, and the Metabolic Studio. The Annenberg Foundation exists to advance the public well-being through improved communication. As the principal means of achieving this goal, the Foundation encourages the development of more effective ways to share ideas and knowledge.