

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ART HISTORY: PHOTOGRAPHY REFERENCES PAINTING

March 25 – April 24, 2004

The Yancey Richardson Gallery is pleased to announce Art History: Photography References Painting, a group exhibition of contemporary photographs by Vik Muniz, Yasumasa Morimura, Lorna Simpson, Elger Esser, Joel Peter Witkin, James Welling, David Seidner, David Hilliard, Tom Hunter, Eve Sussman, Sharon Core, Alvin Booth and Douglas Mellor.

In recent years, the worlds of painting and photography have increasingly merged and overlapped, blurring the boundaries between the mediums. *Art History: Photography References Painting* presents a selection of works that illustrate the dialogue between photography and painting and between contemporary art-making and the history of art. The exhibition features works whose subject matter or pictorial approach reference specific painters or paintings.

Sharon Core reproduces Wayne Thiebaud paintings by making the cakes, painting them with frosting and photographing them while Vik Muniz reprises “Self-Portrait, Rembrandt” in chocolate. Yasumasa Morimura’s humorous riff on Van Gogh’s “Sunflowers”, replaces the seedhead of each blossom with his own face singing and whistling while John O’Reilly slyly incorporates a nude self-portrait into a photo-collage that blends Velazquez and Boucher.

David Seidner and Tom Hunter both usurp the compositions of earlier artists, Ingres and John Everett Millais respectively, to devise new approaches to the contemporary portrait. Douglas Mellor’s exquisitely printed black and white still life compositions suggest the 17th century Spanish painter Zubaran. James Welling uses the inherent properties of cibachrome paper and darkroom chemistry to create ethereal abstractions reminiscent of Rothko. Elger Esser’s “La Roche D’Aval” follows in the footsteps of Monet in capturing the austere beauty of the Etretat landscape. In her photograph based on Velasquez’s “Las Meninas.” Eve Sussman re-imagines the scene captured by the court painter as the infanta presents herself to the king and queen. Finally, David Hilliard’s “Swimmers” weaves a new narrative for Eakins painting “The Swimming Hole.” In Hilliard’s version, one boy sits apart from the others, shut out from the idyllic community presented by the painting.

UPCOMING:

Susan Unterberg “Pisces” April 29 – May 29, 2004

August Sander June 3 – July 2, 2004