

Warhol Polaroid Portraits  
with photographs by Christopher Makos

January 15<sup>th</sup> – February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008

Please list

McCaffrey Fine Art is proud to present an exhibition of 100 celebrity Polaroid portraits by Andy Warhol accompanied by documentary photographs by Warhol's long-time collaborator Christopher Makos. The exhibition dates are January 15<sup>th</sup> – February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008.

While Warhol had made ballpoint pen portraits of friends and family during the early Fifties, he began his silkscreen portraits sourced from his own photo booth instant photographs in 1963. Beginning in the early Seventies, Warhol's portrait production took on a more business-like approach as the costs of financing *The Factory* mounted and commission requests became more commonplace. He adopted the Polaroid *Big Shot* camera around 1971 and this would remain his portrait camera of choice until his death in 1987.

During this 15+ year period, Warhol produced hundreds of unique Polaroid photographs which were the basis for his standard 40 x 40 inch painted portraits. Made side-by-side with the great historic themes of the Seventies and Eighties (*Mao, Hammer & Sickle, Ladies and Gentlemen, Shadows, Rorschach* and *Oxidation* paintings, and *The Last Supper*), Warhol's portraits helped reinvigorate and reinvent the tradition of portraiture, paving the way for Francesco Clemente, Cindy Sherman, Richard Prince and Elizabeth Peyton, amongst others.

Warhol sought out and was actively commissioned by a fascinating cross section of society and McCaffrey Fine Art's exhibition features portraits of the most famous celebrities, sports figures and artists of the era. Subjects include Minnelli, Stallone, Schwarzenegger, O.J. Ali, Basquiat, Lichtenstein, and Mapplethorpe – to name but a few. In addition, a superb group of self-portraits from the Seventies and Eighties will be shown for the first time.

Christopher Makos – an artist in his own right and Warhol's longtime collaborator – assisted in making Warhol's self-portraits and documented studio sessions with many of Warhol's subjects. Makos' atmospheric and insightful works will be also exhibited, conveying the unique ambience of the Warhol portrait experience and *The Factory*.

This exhibition has been arranged in conjunction with the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts and will be accompanied by an extensive color catalogue with text by Tim Hunt. For further information and images, please contact McCaffrey Fine Art at 212-988-2200 / [info@mccaffreyfineart.com](mailto:info@mccaffreyfineart.com).