

FROM: TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL
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For Immediate Release

**MAJOR CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS CONTRIBUTE WORKS TO THE 2007
TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL ARTISTS AWARDS PROGRAM SPONSORED BY
CHANEL**

*Nan Goldin, Chuck Close, Kiki Smith, Bruce Weber and others to Exhibit and Donate
Artwork to Winning Filmmakers*

New York, New York (April 16, 2007) The Tribeca Film Festival announced today that some of the world's most famous contemporary artists have agreed to participate in this year's Tribeca Film Festival Artists Awards Program. The artists, including luminaries Chuck Close, Nan Goldin, Kiki Smith, Bruce Weber, Joseph Kosuth and Stephen Hannock will join well-known contemporary artists, Alex Beard, Deborah Kass, John Newman, Jessica Ann Peavy, Joel Perlman, Kehinde Wiley and Clifford Ross to contribute artwork that will be given as awards to the top thirteen film festival winners. The 2007 Artists Award Program is sponsored by the Parisian fashion house, Chanel and has come to symbolize the Festival's mantra of artists helping other artists.

The artwork – consisting of paintings, photographs, prints, sculptures and posters - will be exhibited at Gallery Viet Nam, 345 Greenwich Street, near Harrison Street from April 25th – May 2nd for the public to get a sneak peek of these pieces prior to their being awarded to the finalists at the Tribeca Film Festival Awards Ceremony on May 3rd.

The Tribeca Film Festival Artists Award Program was started by Jane Rosenthal, one of the festival's founders, in an effort to celebrate all New York artists and honor downtown Manhattan after the attacks on the World Trade Center, September 11, 2001. The Festival is now entering its sixth year and is recognized internationally as a major film industry event celebrating the best in the independent film community.

"Artists are so much a part of the Tribeca community," said Jane Rosenthal, co-founder of the Tribeca Film Festival. "It is a testament to this festival that some of the best artists in the art world generously donate work each year to our winning filmmakers."

Bruce Weber will contribute an evocative photograph of Nelson Mandela taken in 1995. The double portrait shows two faces of Mr. Mandela side-by-side, one with him looking directly into the camera and the other where he is looking down. Both are shown in Mr. Weber's traditional, black and white detailed style. Mr. Weber met Nelson Mandela while on assignment photographing an American Vogue story in South Africa with the model, Iman. Many of the photos from this trip are published in Bruce's 1997 book

Branded Youth and Other Stories, which accompanied his solo exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery.

Chuck Close will donate one of his famous self-portrait reduction block prints. The technique of reduction block printing uses a single printing block that is carved and edition-printed at each state. The Chuck Close SP II has 8 colors for 8 states.

Nan Goldin, the fine art and documentary photographer whose emotional photographs have been shown all over the world including in a recent retrospective at the The Pompidou Centre in Paris, will contribute a 1973 photograph from her collection titled *Ivy with Marilyn, Boston*. The photograph is from a book and a slide show named after a Boston nightclub where Goldin spent her early years. *The Other Side* is comprised of images made over a 25-year period including work made in New York, Paris, Manila, Bangkok and Berlin. In the early 1970's while living in Boston, Nan Goldin met a group of drag queens. They quickly became friends, then roommates, and subsequently her primary photographic subjects for several years. Goldin photographed her new friends daily both in their homes and at what was then Boston's most popular drag bar, The Other Side. These photographs mark the beginning of her fascination with and immersion in a marginalized world of nightclubs, drag queens and what she terms the world of "gender euphoria".

Kiki Smith whose most recent exhibition was seen at The Whitney Museum in February will donate an original piece titled *Reach 2007*.

Stephen Hannock, a painter whose unique technique endows his paintings with their distinctive style which is sometimes referred to as "luminist," will be donating a piece to the Festival for the sixth year in a row. Hannock is known to use his entire body in the process layering paint with resin and sanding it onto the dried oil giving the piece a specific, yet gentle glow. He generally depicts landscapes that are inspired by the countryside found in the Berkshires and Western Massachusetts.

Joseph Kosuth, an influential American conceptual artist will contribute a piece called, *'Double Reading #21', 2006* and is based on the 'Double Reading' series from 1993. Mr. Kosuth strives to explore the nature of art, focusing on ideas at the fringe of art rather than on producing art *per se*. His art is very self-referential.

Alex Beard will contribute an ink drawing titled *Look at Me Now, 2007*. The piece is part of his *Gestural Animals* series. Inspired in part by Asian calligraphy and philosophy this drawing begins with a single random stroke of the brush or splash of the ink. The freedom implicit in the original stroke parallels the gracefulness of nature. The result is a peacock that is whimsical and in harmony with the line from which it originally emerged. Alex, an artist and writer has emerged as one of his generation's most creative and successful painters. He has exhibited his work in several one-man exhibitions in New Orleans, Los Angeles, New York, and quite a few of the places in between. Born in 1970, Alex was influenced to think creatively from a young age by his uncle Peter Beard, the photographer, and his mother Patricia Beard, an accomplished author and magazine editor.

Clifford Ross, the photographer and inventor of the R1 -- a 110-pound, 6-foot film camera that produces what experts say are some of the highest-resolution landscape photographs ever made --has contributed an image that in addition to serving as a filmmaker award will function as the annual commemorative image used on a limited edition poster and t-shirt.

Others contributing artists include: Deborah Kass, John Newman, Jessica Ann Peavy, Joel Perlman, and Kehinde Wiley.

About Chanel

CHANEL's commitment to the arts began with its founder Mademoiselle Chanel almost a century ago. Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel was a passionate patron and enthusiast of the arts. She supported and collaborated with artists of her time in the art, theatre, ballet and cinema worlds - including Jean Cocteau, Sergei Diaghilev, Igor Stravinsky, Pablo Picasso and Jean Renoir.

The House of CHANEL continues to uphold Mademoiselle Chanel's tradition. Karl Lagerfeld has designed costumes for many visually influential films sustaining Coco Chanel's precedent started in 1931 when she was contracted by MGM to design for Hollywood. CHANEL has also collaborated with filmmakers such as Joe Wright, Luc Besson, Ridley Scott, Roman Polanski and Baz Luhrmann, to create original short films for the brand. CHANEL Boutiques across the country are deeply involved with their community by supporting Arts related organizations and helping them advance their artistic development. Additionally, the House has commissioned artists Joseph Stashkevitch, Peter Dayton, Ingo Maurer, Jean Michel Othoniel, Lalanne and Vik Muniz, to interpret CHANEL icons for works to be displayed in CHANEL Boutiques worldwide. CHANEL has also collaborated with artists to create original installations around new fine jewelry collections, most recently by Pierrick Sorin and Xavier Veilhan.

With art playing an integral role in CHANEL's history, it is an honor for CHANEL to have the opportunity to support the Tribeca Film Festival and celebrate the artists of this year and years past.

CHANEL, the international luxury goods company, was founded in France by Gabrielle 'Coco' Chanel in 1911 and remains one of the world's preeminent fashion houses today. The company, which is privately owned, strictly controls all design, manufacturing, distribution and advertising to ensure the highest level of quality.

CHANEL offers a broad range of luxury products, including Ready-to-Wear, fragrance, cosmetics, leather goods, accessories, watches and Fine Jewelry through a U.S. network of 22 boutiques on Mainland, Hawaii and Guam, and approximately 90 locations at select retailers. Haute Couture collections are presented exclusively in Paris. CHANEL maintains 134 freestanding boutiques worldwide, including the famous House of Mlle Chanel on the rue Cambon in Paris. Under the guidance of designer Karl Lagerfeld, the House of CHANEL remains dedicated to luxury, fashion, style and image.

In 1993, CHANEL launched the CHANEL Fine Jewelry Collection and opened a worldwide flagship Fine Jewelry boutique on 18 place Vendôme in Paris. There are eight Fine Jewelry boutiques in the U.S. and 32 worldwide.

About the Tribeca Film Festival

The Tribeca Film Festival was founded in 2002 by Robert De Niro, Jane Rosenthal, and Craig Hatkoff after the attacks on the World Trade Center to help economically and culturally revitalize Lower Manhattan through an annual celebration of film, music, and culture. The Festival's mission is to assist filmmakers to reach the broadest possible audience, enable the international film community and the general public to experience the power of film, and to promote New York City as a major filmmaking center.

In its first five years, the festival attracted over one and a half million attendees from the US and abroad and created more than \$325 million in economic activity for New York City.

The sixth annual Tribeca Film Festival will run from April 25th to May 6th, 2007. The Festival is anchored in Tribeca with additional venues throughout Manhattan, and includes film screenings, special events, concerts, a family street fair, and *Tribeca Talks* panel discussions. For more information on this year's festival, as well as for highlights on the festival and filmmakers as it takes place, please visit www.tribecafilmfestival.org.

About the 2007 Festival Sponsors

As Founding Sponsor of the Tribeca Film Festival, American Express is committed to expanding the Festival, bringing it to new audiences in compelling ways while offering Cardmembers and the general public special benefits that enhance the festival-going experience. As part of a long-term partnership with the Festival, American Express delivers on its Cardmembers' passion for film, celebrates filmmakers, fosters community and brings energy and business to Lower Manhattan.

The Festival is pleased to announce the return of its Signature Sponsors: Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, AMC Theatres, Apple, Aquafina, Bloomberg, Brookfield Properties, Budweiser Select, Delta Air Lines, Empire State Development/I Love New York, General Motors, Jameson Irish Whiskey, NBC4HD, RR Donnelley, The New York Times, Telemundo 47, Tribeca Grand Hotel and Vanity Fair.

The Tribeca Film Festival is also honored to welcome the following new Signature Sponsors: AARP, Axiom Entertainment, Montblanc, Target, and Yahoo!.

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