

University Gallery

FINE ARTS CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS

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The Minox & the Big Shot

Andy Warhol's Photography (1970-87)

**Opening: Wednesday, September 23rd, 5:00–7:30pm
Through December 13th, 2009**

The University Gallery proudly presents its acquisition of 100 original Polaroid photographs and 50 original black and white gelatin silver prints dating from 1970 to 1987 granted through the Andy Warhol Photographic Legacy Program. These photographs were given to the University Gallery as part of an unprecedented gift in honor of the Andy Warhol Foundation's 20th anniversary. The aim of the Photographic Legacy Program is to provide greater access to Warhol's artwork and process, and to enable a wide range of people from communities across the country to view and study this important yet relatively unknown body of Warhol's work.

An obsessive photographer, Warhol took more than 100,000 photographs between 1976 and 1987, most with his SX70 Polaroid camera (which Polaroid kept in production just for Warhol) and black and white prints with a pocket-sized Minox 35 mm camera. Some Polaroids served as source material for large, silk-screened portrait paintings for which Warhol is famous. These photographs range from celebrities to unidentified acquaintances or patrons. The black and white snapshots offer a fascinating glimpse of the people and places of Warhol's life. In the end, some of the most captivating photographs are not the celebrities, but rather those of everyday objects and people.

As the University Gallery's first Curatorial Fellow, Kathleen Banach (M.A. candidate in Art History '09) will work in consultation with the staff of the University Gallery and art history professor Mario Ontiveros to focus her research on these photographs. She will be the first to study this relatively unknown body of Warhol's work.

Seen in conjunction with this exhibition is ***CONNECTING THE DOTS..... THE WARHOL LEGACY: TOM FRIEDMAN, ELLLEN GALLAGHER, VIK MUNIZ, ROB PRUITT***, an exhibition of work by four acclaimed contemporary artists who explore themes and ideas central to Andy Warhol's artistic practice.

Check the University Gallery's website for related panel discussions, guest speakers, and film screenings.