

SARAH MOON : Circus

10 December 2004 - 22 January 2005

Artist reception

9 December 2004, 6-8 pm



She runs under the bridge along the railway.

New York - The Howard Greenberg Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of photographs by Sarah Moon. The exhibition coincides with the American release of "Circus," published by the Kyoto Museum of Contemporary Art and illustrated with images taken in conjunction with her latest film. "Circus", based on Hans Christian Andersen's "The Little Match Girl", can be best described as a contemporary fairy tale in moving images, pregnant with deep insight and a highly refined sense of beauty following its own unique course. When finished the story, though a fiction, leaves the viewers with a train of singular spiritual reverberations.

Sarah Moon's tale, with all its ephemeral scenes, follows the multiple narratives of circus performers whose troupe of entertainers and trained animals is disbanded by a lover's tryst. When Nastassia, the tightrope walker, trapeze artist and knife thrower's target, abandons the circus in mid-performance to join her lover, she also leaves her extended and actual family behind forever. The storyline then picks up on her daughter, Jane, who plays the role of the little match girl whose sad course is described through the sensual and emotive characteristics that have made Moon's work so revered. With a patina of silvered ennui and photographed as if in a dream, Jane's fate and the fate of all characters in "Circus" is convincing both as a parable of lost innocence and love but is as real as breathing. "Circus" never strays too far into one realm or the other and the viewer is constantly pulled between unconscious fable and conscious desire.

The exhibition will consist of the 35 gelatin silver prints that illustrate "Circus", executed on the set during the making of the film. Also to be included will be a selection of Moon's fashion color photographs. "Circus", the film, will also be shown in a continual screening of the DVD.

(Over please)

Moon has been a major figure in the world of fashion photography for more than three decades, carving out her own distinctive niche. Her signature style favors mystery, nostalgia and sensuality over the typical erotically suggestive pose. In addition to photographing haute couture, Moon creates a rich, visual realm with her still lifes and portraits. She is known for her often-manipulated otherworldly images in both black and white and color. Though varied in subject matter, her compositions and rich textures lend a sense of atmosphere that transforms the everyday into the uncommon moment – a lush space between waking and dreaming.

Born in England in 1940 to French parents, Moon began her career as a fashion model in the 1960s. Since 1968, she has worked as a fashion photographer and film maker. Her photographic work has been published in *Vogue*, *Elle*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Marie-Claire*, *Graphis*, *LIFE* and numerous other magazines. Her books include *Improbable Memories* (1980), *Little Red Riding Hood* (1986) *Vrais Semblants* (1991), *Inventario 1985-1997* (1997) and *Photopoche* (1998). She has made more than 150 television commercials and a film on the photographer Henri Cartier-Bresson (1995). Moon won the International Center of Photography's Infinity Award for Applied Photography in 1985 and the Grand Prix National de la Photographie in 1995. Sarah Moon currently works and resides in Paris.

For further information, or to request visuals for press,
contact Karen Marks at 212 334 0010, karen@howardgreenberg.com
Starting December 9th, the exhibition can be viewed at www.howardgreenberg.com