



For Immediate Release

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**Corcoran Gallery Curator to Keynote Artexpo Atlanta's
Industry Breakfast**

Philip Brookman to Discuss Humanity Through Art

**Exhibit of Limited-Edition Photographs From
Famed American Artist Gordon Parks to Highlight Brookman's Speech**

June 30, 2004....Philip Brookman, senior curator of photography and media arts for the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington D.C., will give the keynote speech at the Artexpo Atlanta Industry Breakfast, Saturday, September 11, 2004.

Industry professionals and art enthusiasts will have the pleasure of discussing the impact of photography with Brookman, who, over the years, has been known to exhibit many controversial displays at the Corcoran Gallery, including photography of homeless children and dying cancer patients.

“Philip Brookman brings unique experiences to the Industry Breakfast,” said Artexpo Atlanta Show Director Hugh Tobin. “He has a different perspective on what art can be, and his exhibits are not only creative and controversial, but they convey compassion and the essence of being human.”

Brookman is known for taking a less-traditional approach to the exhibits that he has displayed at his galleries throughout his career. Rather than emphasizing the history often captured through photography, Brookman focuses on the art as it relates to the community, and its ability to depict more than a historical imprint, but insights into chasms of life that are often overlooked or ignored, such as death and dying. Brookman sees artistic value in topics that society often finds taboo.

Because much of Brookman's work focuses on forgotten pieces of humanity, many of his exhibits are considered quite controversial. He received much attention while working with the Washington Public Arts Project in 1989, exhibiting the homoerotic works of Robert Mapplethorpe, an exhibit that had been cancelled from the Corcoran Gallery for

political reasons. Currently, Brookman curates the exhibit “What Remains,” showcasing a series of Sally Mann’s photographs of the dead at the Corcoran Gallery.

More than a curator, Brookman is a writer, editor, filmmaker and photographer who has held positions with the Washington Project for the Arts, El Centro de la Raza, San Diego and the University of California, Santa Cruz. He has also organized major exhibitions for the National Gallery of Art in Washington and the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston.

Brookman will speak at the Artexpo Industry breakfast, Saturday September 11, 2004 from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Artexpo, an international exhibition of fine art, will exhibit limited edition prints of the work of photographer Gordon Parks, famed American photographer. Brookman, recently wrote an essay entitled, “Unlocked Doors: The Art of Gordon Parks,” in Gordon Parks’ new book, *Half Past Autumn*.

The International Art and Framing Group

The International Art and Framing Group (IAFG) is the No. 1 producer of art shows and art-related publications in the world, serving three distinct segments of the art and framing market.

In the decorative art and framing market, IAFG produces DECOR Expo Atlanta, DECOR Expo New York and *DECOR Magazine*. DECOR Expo Atlanta is the 123rd largest tradeshow (by attendance) in the United States according to *Tradeshow Week* magazine, and is held each September at the Georgia World Congress Center. Published since 1880, *DECOR* magazine is the bible of the art and framing industry, and will celebrate its 125th continuous year of publishing in 2005. IAFG also produces: *Framing Business News*, focused on the technical side of the framing business, and *Art Expressions* magazine, for the European market.

In the fine art segment of the art and framing market, IAFG produces Artexpo Atlanta and New York, which showcase a variety of artists and styles, including: painting, prints, sculptures, photography, animation and decorative arts. Artexpo Atlanta is in its inaugural year, and will be held September 10 –12, 2004 at the Georgia World Congress Center. Artexpo New York is held each winter at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center. IAFG produces *Art Business News*, the mid-tier art market’s No. 1 publication, reporting on art trends, art news and art retailing issues, serving art dealers, retail galleries, interior designers, and other related professionals.

The modern and contemporary art market is served by Art Miami, Miami’s original art fair. Art Miami is held each January at the Miami Beach Convention Center. In 2005, Art Miami will celebrate its 15th year of showcasing fine art from around the world.

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