CINDY Sherman **GALLERY OF MODERN ART**

MEDIA INQUIRIES DELACH ART GALLERY MODERN ART

MEDIA RELEASE

GOMA TO PRESENT AUSTRALIA'S FIRST CINDY SHERMAN EXHIBITION SINCE 2000

The first major Australian solo exhibition in more than 15 years of work by the renowned New York-based artist Cindy Sherman will open at Brisbane's Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA) from 28 May to 3 October this year.

Cindy Sherman is one of the most recognised and influential artists of our time, who across her career has produced an astonishing number of character studies, experimenting with costume, prosthetics, makeup and digital photography to embellish and manipulate photographs in which she enacts her subjects in highly constructed images.

Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art Director (QAGOMA) Chris Saines said in addition to six important photographic series produced by the American artist since 2000, the exhibition will feature an entirely new body of work created this year and shown for the first time in the Southern Hemisphere.

'Consistently featuring in major exhibitions and collections around the world and working alongside prominent fashion houses, Sherman's practice is both broad and ambitious, and continues to challenge and transform our understanding of photography and the phenomenon of contemporary portraiture,' said Mr Saines.

The exhibition includes more than 50 large-scale works drawn from public and private collections – such as the much written about series 'head shots' 2000-02 and the darker 'clowns' series from 2003-04, made in the aftermath of the 2001 terrorist attacks in the USA.

Also featured are Sherman's 'society portraits' from 2008, an immense mural whose 5 metre-tall cast of characters loom large over gallery visitors, and two subversive fashion house collaborations, the Voguecommissioned 'Balenciaga' 2007--08, and 'Chanel' 2010-2013 in which the artist mines the fashion house's haute couture archives.

Ellie Buttrose, QAGOMA's Associate Curator of Contemporary International Art said 'Cindy Sherman' focused on the artist's return as 'the model' after a long period in which she remained behind the camera. This stage of her career coincides with Sherman's embrace of digital technologies that allow her to create elaborate backgrounds and work at a more imposing scale.

'Sherman's work sets out to capture the essence of "a type" in her meticulously staged photographs. By posing as her own subject, she is able to enter the characters and explore the humour behind exaggerated stereotypes.

'Sherman's practice is influenced by pop culture, by the characters and types we see every day in an image saturated world.' said Ms Buttrose.







WINE & SPARKLING PARTNER YERING Station





CINDY SHERMAN GALLERY OF MODERN ART

MEDIA INQUIRIES AMELIA GUNDELACH MEDIA MANAGER QUEENSLAND ART GALLERY GALLERY OF MODERN ART

F: +61 (0)7 3840 7162 M: +61 (0)409 994 985 E: MEDIA@QAGOMA.QLD.GOV.AU

MEDIA RELEASE

'In Sherman's works from 2000 onward, the subtle yet poignant treatment of the image reflects her deep understanding of the history of portraiture, the value associated with knowledge and the manufacture of image for cultural and societal status.'

The exhibition will travel to City Gallery Wellington in New Zealand from November 2016 to March 2017.

The Gallery's 144-page catalogue for the exhibition includes more than 70 full-colour plates and contributions by exhibition curator, Ellie Buttrose; Dr Miranda Wallace, Senior Curator, International Exhibition Projects at the National Gallery of Victoria; American author and close family friend Betsy Berne; and City Gallery Wellington's Chief Curator Robert Leonard.

An extensive suite of public programs, including an Up Late series and GOMA Talks, will accompany the exhibition. Full program details will be released soon.

'Cindy Sherman' is a ticketed exhibition supported by Airline Partner Virgin Australia; Tourism and Media Partners Brisbane Marketing and JC Decaux; and Wine and Sparkling Partner Yering Station.

Tickets \$15, Concession \$12, QAGOMA Members \$11. Season passes available from \$33 for QAGOMA Members. For tickets and further information please visit <u>www.qagoma.qld.gov.au</u>.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Born in 1954 in Glen Ridge, New Jersey, Cindy Sherman is one of the most influential artists of the last halfcentury. After graduating from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1976, Sherman relocated to New York City where she began making the seminal 'Untitled Film Stills' and where she continues to live and work today.

Sherman has an extensive exhibition history having shown at institutions including: The Museum of Modern Art, New York (2012); San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (2012); Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (2012); Dallas Museum of Art (2012); Astrup Fearnley Museum, Oslo (2013); Moderna Museet, Stockholm (2014); and Kunsthaus Zurich (2014).







WINE & SPARKLING PARTNER YERING Station



