

the warhol:

Contact(s)

Gina Frey

T 412.237.8339

E freyg@warhol.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE ANDY WARHOL MUSEUM TO PRESENT WARHOL'S ATHLETE PORTRAITS FROM THE RICHARD WEISMAN COLLECTION

(Pittsburgh, PA) . . . May 2, 2005... The Andy Warhol Museum announces that it will present ten paintings from Andy Warhol's *Athletes Series 1977-1978*, on loan from the collection of Richard Weisman, June 3 through July 3, 2005 in the Museum's first floor gallery.

In 1977, Weisman commissioned his friend Warhol to do a series of ten of the world's most famous athletes. The athletes, personally chosen by Weisman, were: Jack Nicklaus, Chris Evert, Tom Seaver, Kareem Abdul Jabbar, Pele, O.J. Simpson, Dorothy Hamill, Willie Shoemaker, Muhammed Ali and Rod Gilbert. The commission was inspired by Weisman's belief that the two most popular leisure activities — the arts and sports — should be brought together.

An opening reception for the exhibition will be held on Friday, June 3 at Good Fridays and will feature a 5:30 p.m. gallery talk by Weisman. Following the talk, Weisman will sign copies of his recent book, *Picasso to Pop, the Richard Weisman Collection*. The gallery talk and book signing are free with Museum admission.

About Richard Weisman

Richard Weisman's history with the art world began early on, as he grew up in a family of patrons and collectors. His mother, Marcia Weisman, was a founder of the Contemporary Museum of Art in Los Angeles. Richard began collecting in the 1960s with Matta and Roy Lichtenstein. Since then his collection has grown to include Fernando Botero, Robert Motherwell, Claes Oldenberg, Mark Rothko, Frank Stella, Clifford Still, and Pablo Picasso among many others.

The Andy Warhol Museum receives state arts funding support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

Located in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the place of Andy Warhol's birth, The Warhol is one of the most comprehensive single-artist museums in the world. The Andy Warhol Museum is one of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh. Additional information about The Warhol is available at www.warhol.org.

###

The Andy Warhol Museum

117 Sandusky Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15212-5890

T 412.237.8300

F 412.237.8340

W www.warhol.org

Phone: 412.237.8300

Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat, and Sun 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Fri, 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Mon closed

Admission: Members - free

Good Fridays - 5-10 p.m., Half-price Museum admission

Adults - \$10, Sr. Citizens - \$7, Children/Students - \$6

The Warhol Store/The Warhol Café – free