

For Immediate Release:

Steve Schapiro

The Godfather

&

Elton John AIDS Foundation

Photography Portfolio

Friday, June 5th - Saturday, August 22nd

Opening Reception: Friday, June 5th, 6-8 PM

Meet Steve Schapiro & Informal Artist Talk with Book Signing

Saturday, June 6th, 11AM

Atlanta, GA, May 8, 2009- Jackson Fine Art is pleased to present photojournalist Steve Schapiro's iconic images from Francis Ford Coppola's, *The Godfather*. Schapiro's photographs provide an insider's view of the making of the legendary trilogy. Imagine the experience of witnessing renowned actors as they created their most unforgettable performances. "*The Godfather trilogy is a story about love, honour, revenge, violence, family, and the handing down from one generation to the next. It strikes chords in all of us. It was a coming together of script, direction, actors, lighting, costume, and scenic design. I was very fortunate to see all this happen firsthand, along with the behind the scenes moments that made it an even more poignant event.*"

The Godfather Family Album, a coffee-table book published by Taschen, contains more than 400 of Schapiro's images and allows viewers a privileged behind-the-scenes glance in the making of film history. This edition is limited to 1,000 copies, each numbered and signed by the artist.

Selected works from *Schapiro's Heroes*, a personally selected collection of images of some of the most influential Americans of the last century, will also be shown. *Schapiro's Heroes* is a visual journey that allows us to view the most intimate moments of iconic and influential figures, such as Muhammed Ali, Robert Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Andy Warhol and Ray Charles. In the turbulent decade of the 1960s, Schapiro traveled throughout America, making compelling black and white photographs that recorded the people, their environments and their social concerns; photographs that defined the era.

Schapiro's photographs have appeared on the covers of most major magazines in the world, including *Life*, *Look*, *Time*, *Sports Illustrated*, *Paris Match*, and the first *People* magazine cover. In Hollywood he has worked on more than 200 motion pictures; his most famous film posters are for *Midnight Cowboy*, *Taxi Driver*, *Parenthood*, and *The Godfather Part III*.

Born and raised in New York City, Steve Schapiro attended Amherst College and graduated from Bard College. Schapiro's photographs were included in the Metropolitan Museum of Art's 1968 exhibition "Harlem On My Mind". His work can be found in the collection of the Smithsonian, The High Museum and the National Portrait Gallery. His recent solo shows were in Los Angeles, Amsterdam, London and Paris.

Also on view is the **Elton John AIDS Foundation Photography Portfolio I**, the result of a very happy marriage between two of Sir Elton's greatest passions, collecting photographic art and raising money for the Elton John AIDS Foundation. The Portfolio includes some of the most outstanding international names: **Nan Goldin, Katy Grannan, Damien Hirst, Sally Mann, Richard Misrach, Shirin Neshat, Thomas Struth, Sam Taylor-Wood, Juergen Teller and Ruud van Empel**. A majority of these artists are also represented in Sir Elton's own collection. "I am both thrilled by the extraordinary array of art that has been contributed to this collection and profoundly grateful to the generous and talented artists represented within for supporting EJAF's vital work", said Sir Elton.

Each 20 x 24 inch portfolio contains 10 original photographs. The photographs have been printed under the supervision of the individual artists in an edition of 40 with 12 Artist Proofs.

The Elton John AIDS Foundation was established in the United States in 1992 (EJAF-US) and in the United Kingdom in 1993 (EJAF-UK) by founder and chairman Sir Elton John. Together, both entities have raised over \$150 million to support HIV/AIDS prevention and service programs in 55 countries around the globe since inception. Today, EJAF is one of the world's leading nonprofit HIV/AIDS organizations supporting innovative HIV prevention programs, efforts to eliminate stigma and discrimination associated with HIV/AIDS, and direct care and support services for people living with HIV/AIDS. EJAF-US's current grant-making priorities target HIV prevention programs in the Southern United States, the Caribbean, and Latin America, HIV prevention and care services for highly marginalized and vulnerable populations and HIV/AIDS prevention education and the promotion of sexual health for adolescents.