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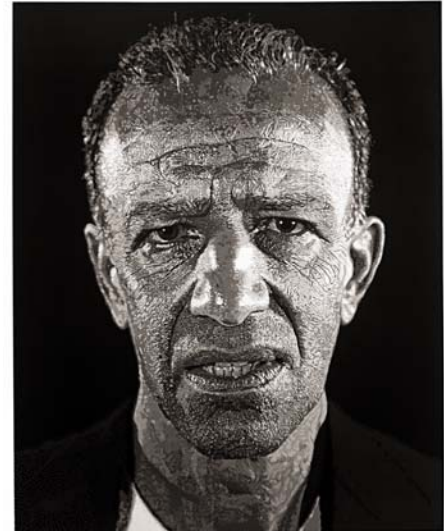
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CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART PRESENTS SUMMER 2010 PROGRAMS
CHUCK CLOSE PRINTS: PROCESS AND COLLABORATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. – This summer, the Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design will launch a series of cultural and educational programs inspired by the exhibition *Chuck Close Prints: Process and Collaboration*, the first-ever survey to examine the artist's extensive and groundbreaking work in the field of printmaking, opening at the Corcoran on July 3. In addition to an exclusive in-person appearance by the artist on June 30, programs include family workshops, lectures, and film screenings, each designed to highlight Close's role in advancing the art of printmaking through innovation and technique. A number of free programs are included as part of the Corcoran's FREE Summer Saturdays promotion Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend, when admission to the museum's permanent collection and temporary exhibitions is free. *Chuck Close Prints: Process and Collaboration* programs include:



An Evening with Chuck Close and Christopher Finch
Wednesday, June 30 at 6:30 p.m.

Co-presented by VSA – The International Organization on Arts and Disability

Chuck Close is one of the most respected, iconic, groundbreaking, and beloved artists of our time. On this intimate evening, Close speaks about his life, career, process, and inspiration with his biographer Christopher Finch. In 1968, Finch was instrumental in acquiring the artist's first major painting for the Walker Art Center, and their friendship has continued for more than 40 years. Following the conversation, Finch's recently published book, *Chuck Close: Life* (Prestel, 2010) is available for purchase and signing by the author, and audience members are invited to a private viewing of the Corcoran's special exhibition, *Chuck Close Prints: Process and Collaboration*. \$25 General; \$20 Members. To register, visit www.corcoran.org/calendar or call (202) 639-1770.

Chuck Close: Printmaking Techniques for Educators
Thursday, July 8 from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Explore printmaking techniques for your classroom in this workshop that complements the exhibition

Chuck Close Prints: Process of Collaboration. Museum educators facilitate discussions in the galleries about the various processes on view. Printmaker and Director of Education Studies Dr. Pamela Lawton leads a hands-on relief, etching, and lithography workshop. An exhibition tour, educator resources, and light refreshments are included. \$15 General; \$12 Members. To register, visit www.corcoran.org/calendar or call (202) 639-1770.

Pulp to Paper

Saturday, July 10 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Paint and canvas are not the only tools artists use to create. See portraits made from wood blocks, strings, and even paper pulp in the special exhibition, *Chuck Close Prints: Process and Collaboration*. Following the tour, create your own hand-made paper from bits of paper pulp. \$10 General; \$8 Members. To register, visit www.corcoran.org/calendar or call (202) 639-1770.

Chuck Close

Film Screening

Wednesday, July 21 at 7 p.m.

Chuck Close is an illuminating depiction of one of the world's leading contemporary painters. Directed by the late Marion Cajori, the film masterfully captures the process and technique used by Close to create his iconic portraits. Through a series of intimate interviews featuring not only Close, but also his friends, colleagues, and subjects, Cajori creates an in-depth portrait of the artist and his methodology. The screening complements the exhibition, *Chuck Close Prints: Process and Collaboration*. \$10 General; \$8 Members. To register, visit www.corcoran.org/calendar or call (202) 639-1770.

Community Art Project

Pre-registration required.

Saturdays: July 24, August 7, August 21 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Visitors work collaboratively on a Chuck Close inspired mystery portrait project in the Corcoran's education workshop and Atrium. Participants create a large-scale image of an artwork from the Corcoran permanent collection that will then be displayed in the atrium. Free. To register, visit www.corcoran.org/programs.

FAMILY WORKSHOPS

Pulp to Paper

Saturday, July 10 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Pre-registration is required.

Paint and canvas are not the only tools artists use to create. See portraits made from wood blocks, strings, and even paper pulp in the special exhibition, *Chuck Close Prints: Process and Collaboration*. Following the tour, create your own hand-made paper from bits of paper pulp. \$12 General; \$8 Members at the Family Level and above. To register, visit www.corcoran.org/family/family_programs.php.

What a Relief!

Saturday, August 14 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Pre-registration required.

Come face to face with the many colors and shapes that make up a portrait in the special exhibition, *Chuck Close Prints: Process and Collaboration*. Then in our printmaking studio, create an original relief print and remember to sign each edition for your friends and family! \$12 General; \$8 Members at the Family Level and above. To register, visit www.corcoran.org/family/family_programs.php.

Chuck Close Prints: Process and Collaboration

July 3–September 12, 2010

Born in 1940 in Monroe, Washington, contemporary artist Chuck Close is widely known for creating

large-scale portraits in mediums that range from painting and drawing to photography and printmaking. In 1972, with the help of printer Kathan Brown of Crown Point Press, Close created his first print as an established artist by revisiting the 17th-century technique of *mezzotint*, no longer in vogue. He has since expanded his technical repertoire as a printmaker, engaging with processes as diverse as woodcut, silk screen, aquatint, and spitbite etching. The exhibition includes seminal works that range from Close's first print, *Keith/Mezzotint*, 1972, to the ambitious 113-color Japanese-style *ukiyo-e* woodcut *Emma*, produced 30 years later. On display are select matrices and proofs that illustrate the steps involved in making a print, as well as examples of Close's work in other media. Recent and new works by Close, such as *Roy Paper/Pulp*, 2009–2010 and *Self-portrait (anamorphic)*, 2007, will also be shown in the exhibition for the first time.

Always interested in the process required to generate his portraits, Close has consistently turned to printmaking to experiment with visual ideas, resulting in some of his most captivating and accomplished works. Attracted to the limitations and difficulties of printmaking, Close has routinely collaborated with a community of master printers to produce his elaborate works. He has engineered new techniques and approaches that have greatly expanded the possibilities of the medium. Though he continues to refine and develop his methods of working, he consistently starts from photographs that feature only the heads of his subjects, and he employs a grid system to transcribe those portraits into finished prints. Close occasionally returns to subject years later, re-using and repurposing an image to inspire new works.

Chuck Close Prints: Process and Collaboration was organized by Blaffer Gallery, the Art Museum of the University of Houston. The exhibition and publication have been generously underwritten by the Neuberger Berman Foundation. Additional support was made possible by the Lannan Foundation, Jon and Mary Shirley, The Eleanor and Frank Freed Foundation and Houston Endowment Inc., Jonathan and Marita Fairbanks, Dorene and Frank Herzog, Andrew and Gretchen McFarland, Carey Shuart, The Wortham Foundation, Inc., Karen and Eric Pulaski, Suzanne Slesin and Michael Steinberg, and Texas Commission on the Arts. Support for the presentation at the Corcoran Gallery of Art is made possible in part by the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation and the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation.

VISITOR INFORMATION

The Corcoran's hours of operation are as follows: Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; closed Monday and Tuesday. Admission to *Chuck Close: Process and Collaboration* is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors (62+) and students (with valid ID), children 12 and under, military (with valid ID) and Members enter for free. Admission to the museum will be FREE on Saturdays from May 29 to September 4. For more information, including special Free

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Summer Saturdays programming, visit www.corcoran.org/freesummersaturdays.

ABOUT THE CORCORAN

The Corcoran Gallery of Art, a privately funded institution, was founded in 1869 as Washington's first and largest nonfederal museum of art. It is known internationally for its distinguished collection of historical and modern American art as well as contemporary art, photography, European painting, sculpture and the decorative arts. Founded in 1890, the Corcoran College of Art + Design is Washington's only four-year college of art and design offering BFA degrees in Digital Media Design, Fine Art, Graphic Design and Photography; a five-year Bachelor of Fine Arts/ Master of Arts in Teaching (BFA/MAT); and a two-year Master of Arts (MA) in Interior Design or History of Decorative Arts. The College's Continuing Education program offers part-time credit and non-credit classes for children and adults and draws more than 2,500 participants each year.

For more information about the Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design, visit www.corcoran.org.

Captions:

Image page one: Chuck Close, *Alex/Reduction Block*, 1993. Silk screen from reduction linoleum cut, 79 3/8 x 60 3/8 inches, edition of 35. Brand X Editions, New York, printer (Robert Blanton, Thomas Little, Jason Engelhard, Joseph Stauber; original reduction linocut, Tandem Press with Bill Weege, Joe Wilfer). Pace Editions, Inc., New York, publisher. Courtesy of the artist and Pace Editions, Inc.

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