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PRESENTATION  
HOUSE  
GALLERY

June 28 – August 3, 2008

***“Male” Works from the Collection of Vince Aletti***  
***Attila Richard Lukacs / Polaroids / Michael Morris***



From the exhibition, "Male: Work from the collection of Vince Aletti!"  
Wilhelm von Gloeden, *(boy in plaid shirt)*, c. 1900, albumen print,  
23 ½ x 19 ½ in. Courtesy Vince Aletti.

Presentation House Gallery is pleased to present two concurrent exhibitions that showcase extensive, provocative views of the male figure.

*“Male”* is an exhibition of portrait works drawn from the personal collection of curator, writer and The New Yorker photography critic Vince Aletti. It features more than 100 photographs as well as drawings, sculptures, and paintings, juxtaposing works by celebrated figures with works by emerging artists, alongside anonymously authored images and flea market finds. *“Male”* presents a complex history of portraiture through an eclectic approach to collecting, conflating both historical and vernacular material in a highly idiosyncratic and fiercely independent articulation of visual culture.

*Attila Richard Lukacs / Polaroids / Michael Morris* showcases over 600 Polaroid photographs by Vancouver painter Attila Richard Lukacs produced over the past twenty years as referents for paintings, assembled and collaged by Vancouver Island artist Michael Morris. Utilizing the unique characteristics of the Polaroid medium, Lukacs' painter's sensibility is evident in the photograph's rich hues, deep chiaroscuro, romantic sensuality and graphic immediacy. Building on these strengths, Morris employs simple thematic and organizational schemas to create vibrant Polaroid grids, uncovering an archeology of Lukacs' work and relationships through a formal link to his own Colour Bar Research project of the early 1970s.

Collected representations of males are, still, rarely located outside the idioms and arenas of fashion and pornography, and infrequently transcend these delineations. Together, *“Male”* and *Polaroids* provoke important questions about our culture's continuing negotiation of images of men, while offering an extraordinary view onto the subject of the male form.

**Guided tour with Vince Aletti, Friday June 27 at 7:00 PM**  
**followed by an Opening Reception at 8:00 PM**

Press contact: Diane Evans, 604-986-1351

Gallery hours: Wednesday - Sunday 12 – 5 PM, Thursday, 12 – 8 PM

*“Male” Works from the Collection of Vince Aletti* originates at White Columns New York. *Attila Richard Lukacs / Polaroids / Michael Morris* is produced with the support of the Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton, and the Illingworth Kerr Gallery, Calgary, and in conjunction with On Main, who will showcase *Attila Richard Lukacs 3 Polaroids*, opening Saturday, June 28 at 8 pm

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About the participants:

**Vince Aletti** reviews photography exhibitions for The New Yorker's *Goings on About Town* section and writes a regular column about photo books for *Photograph*. He was the art editor of the *Village Voice* from 1994 to 2005, and the paper's photo critic for 20 years. He is the winner of the International Center of Photography's 2005 Infinity Award in writing. In March of 2002, he co-curated a show of Steven Klein's fashion photography for the Musee de L'Elysee in Lausanne, Switzerland. Aletti is currently working with Andrew Roth on "Male," a book of photographs from his collection.

**Attila Richard** Lukacs was born in Calgary, Alberta in 1962. Graduating from Vancouver's Emily Carr Institute in 1985 he has lived in Berlin, New York and now resides in Vancouver. Lukacs is widely known for his paintings of male skinheads, primates and American military cadets, and for his synthesis of historical referents, notably the figuration of painters David and Caravaggio in explicit contemporary reworkings. Lukacs' solo exhibitions include the National Gallery of Canada, 2005 and the Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery, 2000.

**Michael Morris** was born in Sussex, England in 1942. In the mid sixties he studied at the Vancouver School of Art and then the Slade School in London. Influenced by the Fluxus movement, Morris' diverse practice includes painting, installation, photography and video. One of the founders of the Western Front Lodge, he is widely known for his ongoing collaboration with artist Vincent Trasov. Originally titled Image Bank, the Morris/Trasov archive is now housed at the Morris and Helen Belkin Gallery.