

# The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release  
April 1991

## FACT SHEET

**EXHIBITION**            **LEE FRIEDLANDER: NUDES**

**DATES**                July 25 - October 8, 1991

**ORGANIZATION**        John Szarkowski, Director, Department of Photography,  
The Museum of Modern Art

**CONTENT**              For more than twelve years, American photographer Lee  
Friedlander (b. 1934) has been photographing female nudes.  
Approximately fifty photographs from this project, selected  
from the forthcoming book *Nudes*, are presented in this  
exhibition. Using a hand-held Leica camera and a flash,  
Friedlander photographs his subjects at close range, often  
framing the image to focus on a torso or limbs. The models,  
in domestic settings, appear standing, seated, or reclining.  
Ranging from intimate portraits to abstract figure studies,  
the images are both relaxed and assertive, humorous and erotic.

                              Though Friedlander's nudes belong to a history that includes  
Bill Brandt, Harry Callahan, and Edward Weston, they differ  
from more classical interpretations of the nude in their  
unflinching realism. Friedlander allows the viewer to  
recognize the subjects as individuals by the appearance of a  
beauty mark, for example, or her own unique anatomy.  
Occasionally the subjects are photographed so closely that  
they appear abstract, recalling the work of Constantin  
Brancusi. Although some of these pictures have been  
exhibited previously, this is the first time this body of  
work has been shown together.

**PUBLICATION**        *Nudes* by Lee Friedlander. Afterword by Ingrid Sischy.  
104 pages. 84 tritone plates. Published by Pantheon Books.  
Hardcover, \$50.00, available in The MoMA Book Store.

**TRAVEL**                A national tour is planned.

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For further information or photographic materials, contact the Department of  
Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 212/708-9750.