## The Museum of Modern Art

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## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART ADDS CINDY SHERMAN'S UNTITLED FILM STILLS TO 1997 EXHIBITION SCHEDULE

First Opportunity to See MoMA's Recent Acquisition

EXHIBITION Cindy Sherman: The Complete Untitled Film Stills

DATES June 26–September 2, 1997

ORGANIZATION Organized by Peter Galassi, Chief Curator, Department of Photography

SPONSORSHIP This exhibition is sponsored by Madonna.

CONTENT The Untitled Film Stills, the landmark series of sixty-nine black-and-white photographs, was created by American artist Cindy Sherman (b. 1954) from 1977 to 1980. The Museum of Modern Art acquired the only complete set of these works in December 1995.

Widely regarded as one of the most original and influential achievements in the art of the past two decades, the photographs comprise a lively and imaginative catalogue of female roles derived from the movies, all played by Sherman herself.

In each photograph Sherman appears in a different guise: the ingenue, the sex kitten, the hardened film-noir heroine, the sophisticate. Together, the pictures deftly encapsulate a fictional culture of femininity, whose artificiality is made all the more salient by the viewer's knowledge that Sherman herself plays every role. Because of the ways that the photographs interact with each other, the series is most powerful when seen as a whole.

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For further information, contact Mary Lou Strahlendorff, Department of Communications, The Museum of Modern Art, 212-708-9755.