

31 May 2016

# News Release

## **'WOMEN: New Portraits' by Annie Leibovitz opens in Hong Kong**

**Commissioned by UBS, the exhibition of new photographs opens to the public in Kennedy Town on 3 June 2016. Access to the exhibition will be free.**

Hong Kong, 31 May 2016 – 'WOMEN: New Portraits', an exhibition of newly commissioned photographs by renowned photographer Annie Leibovitz opens to the public in Hong Kong on 3 June 2016 in the Cheung Hing Industrial Building, Kennedy Town as part of a 10-city global tour.

Leibovitz's new work is a continuation of a project that began over fifteen years ago when her most enduringly popular series of photographs, 'Women', was published in 1999. Susan Sontag, with whom the original project was a collaboration, called it "a work in progress". 'WOMEN: New Portraits' will reflect the changes in the roles of women today and will evolve over the coming year as a body of work.

The new portraits feature women of outstanding achievement including artists, musicians, CEOs, politicians, writers and philanthropists. In addition to the new photographs, the exhibition includes work from the original series, as well as other unpublished photographs taken since.

Annie Leibovitz said: "When I asked UBS about updating the WOMEN's project there was no hesitation. They said let's do it, and they have been extraordinary in every way. It is such a big undertaking and a broad subject, it is like going out and photographing the ocean."

Kathryn Shih, President UBS Asia Pacific, said: "Annie Leibovitz is a leading creative figure and we're thrilled to be collaborating with her to celebrate the changing roles of women. UBS is dedicated to attracting, supporting and retaining top female talent across all levels of the organization and we are committed to increasing the percentage of women at the firm. The exhibition is free to visit, so we hope that the newly commissioned series inspires and empowers as many people as possible."

Aligned with the focus UBS places on education, the free learning programs accompanying the exhibition will explore ways of seeing through photography, working with young people in local schools, communities and universities. In Hong Kong, these programs will include a workshop with photography and fine arts students from Hong Kong Art School, Hong Kong Baptist University and the Chinese University of Hong Kong. On weekends, free family workshops will be presented in partnership with Asia Society Hong Kong Center, the exhibition's Education Partner in Hong Kong. A Teachers' Guide produced in partnership with the International Center of Photography in New York and a Children's Activity Guide are available to teachers and the public on the exhibition website.

UBS are also presenting a talks program, 'Women for Women' through 2016, addressing topics of global and local relevance to women's rights. In Hong Kong, UBS will host an event examining the representation of women in the media.

Annie Leibovitz (b. 1949) has been making powerful images documenting popular culture since the early 1970s, when she began working as a photojournalist for Rolling Stone. She became the magazine's chief photographer in 1973, and ten years later began working for Vanity Fair and then Vogue. Her large and distinguished body of work encompasses some of the best-known portraits of our time. Exhibitions of Leibovitz's work have been shown at museums and galleries around the world, including the National Portrait

Gallery in Washington, D.C.; the International Center of Photography in New York; the Brooklyn Museum; the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam; the National Portrait Gallery in London; and the State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia. Her work is held in museum collections from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; and the Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington D.C. to the National Portrait Gallery in London. She has published several collections of photographs and is the recipient of many honours. In 2006 she was made a 'Commandeur' in the 'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres' by the French government. In 2009, she received the International Center of Photography's Lifetime Achievement Award, the first Creative Excellence Award from the American Society of Magazine Editors, and the Centenary Medal of the Royal Photographic Society in London. In 2012, she was the recipient of the Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art Award to Distinguished Women in the Arts and the Wexner Prize. In 2013 she received the Prince of Asturias Award for Communication and Humanities. In 2015 she received SFMoMA's Contemporary Vision Award. She has been designated a Living Legend by the Library of Congress.

A set of the new photographs will enter the UBS Art Collection – one of the world's most important corporate collections of contemporary art, comprising more than 30,000 works.

## **WOMEN: New Portraits**

### **Annie Leibovitz**

[www.ubs.com/annieleibovitz](http://www.ubs.com/annieleibovitz)

Venue: 3/F Cheung Hing Industrial Building, 12P Smithfield, Kennedy Town, Hong Kong

Dates: 3 June – 26 June 2016

Opening Hours: Monday – Sunday, 10am – 6pm (last admission 5pm), Friday late until 8pm (last admission 7pm)

FREE entry

Family Weekend Workshops (pre-booking via the exhibition site):

Saturday 18 & Sunday 19 June, 10am – 12pm

Saturday 25 & Sunday 26 June, 10am – 12pm

All workshops are free, to register your place book online:

[www.ubs.com/annieleibovitz-learning](http://www.ubs.com/annieleibovitz-learning)

### **Join the conversation:**

#WOMENxUBS by #AnnieLeibovitz

[@UBSglobalart @AnnieLeibovitz](http://www.twitter.com)

[www.facebook.com/UBSart](http://www.facebook.com/UBSart)

<https://instagram.com/ubsglobalart/>

Exhibition visitors and audiences globally are invited to share the stories of inspiring women in their own lives.

Participants submit their captioned photos via Instagram using #ShareYourHero or directly to the digital gallery at [www.ubs.com/shareyourhero](http://www.ubs.com/shareyourhero) for a chance to meet Annie Leibovitz and win a trip for two to the New York opening of 'WOMEN: New Portraits' in November 2016.

**Notes to editors:****UBS and Contemporary Art**

UBS, a global financial services firm, has a long and substantial record of engagement in contemporary art, and actively enables clients and audiences to participate in the international conversation about art through its contemporary art platform. UBS provides long-term global support to the premier international Art Basel shows in Basel, Miami Beach and Hong Kong, for which the firm serves as global Lead Partner, as well as to the Guggenheim UBS MAP global partnership with the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum and Foundation. At the core of UBS's involvement in contemporary art is the UBS Art Collection, widely recognized as one of the most important corporate contemporary art collections in the world. The collection comprises more than 30,000 objects, including paintings, photographs, drawings, prints, video art and sculptures by artists representing the last 50 years. Works from the collection are installed in 837 UBS buildings in 56 countries around the world. New displays of artwork including both masterpieces from the collection and significant new acquisitions currently feature on the 52nd floor of 2IFC, the bank's headquarters in Hong Kong. UBS also regularly loans works to many international museums to provide greater public access to its collection. The contemporary photography collection incorporates work by Tina Barney; Candida Hofer; Pipolotti Rist; Cindy Sherman; and Sam Taylor Wood, amongst others. Recent acquisitions include work by Thomas Demand. UBS Curators and the UBS Art Board determine the location and usage of all new acquisitions to the collection.

[www.ubs.com/art](http://www.ubs.com/art)

[www.ubs.com/artcollection](http://www.ubs.com/artcollection)

*Guggenheim UBS MAP Global Art Initiative: Under the Same Sun*, South London Gallery, London, opening June 2016.

Art Basel in Basel, Lead Partner UBS, 16 – 19 June 2016

Art Basel in Miami Beach, Lead Partner UBS, 1 – 4 December 2016

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