

Gérard Rondeau Photo Exhibit at the French Cultural Services April 27 – May 29

ONE HUNDRED PORTRAITS OF FAMOUS AUTHORS AND ARTISTS



Exhibit: **Chronicles of a Portraitist – Gérard Rondeau**
Dates: Monday April 27 – Friday May 29
Hours: Weekdays from 1 pm – 5 pm (Closed weekends)
Address: **Cultural Services of the Embassy of France**
972 Fifth Avenue (at 79th St)
New York, NY
More Info: www.frenchculture.org
Admission: Free

New York, March 21, 2012—Susan Sontag, Gore Vidal, Jeff Koons, Nadine Gordimer, Louise Bourgeois... This eclectic assortment of authors and artists share one thing in common: all have been photographed by **Gérard Rondeau**, and their portraits, along with 95 others, will be on display at the **Cultural Services of the French Embassy** from April 27 to May 29, on the occasion of the PEN World Voices Festival of International Literature.

Gérard Rondeau has photographed hundreds of **celebrities** from all walks of life, ranging from Carla Bruni to Léo Castelli, often for the French newspaper *Le Monde*. For this edition of his "**Chronicles of a Portraitist**," he has highlighted writers, as the exhibition will take place in the midst of the PEN World Voices Festival (April 27 to May 3). The 100 portraits on display will feature such notables as Jean **Baudrillard**, Tahar **Ben Jelloun**, Henri **Cartier-Bresson**, Jacques **Derrida**, **Gilbert & George**, Claude **Lanzmann**, Roy **Lichtenstein**, Joan **Mitchell**, Patrick **Modiano**, Jean-Jacques **Sempé**, Richard **Serra**, Philippe **Starck**, and George **Steiner**. The exhibit's curator, **Christian Caujolle**, is one of the founders and the artistic director of the VU photo agency. He has organized exhibits throughout the world (Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Paris, Rotterdam, Seoul, Tokyo, Venice).

This special literary edition of "Chronicles of a Portraitist" will celebrate one of the world's biggest gatherings of world-class writers. This year, the **PEN World Voices Festival** will bring together more than **160 writers from 40 countries for a week** of cross-cultural literary exchange. A number of French-speaking writers will participate in the more than 60 scheduled events, including Salwa Al Neimi, Muriel Barbery, Nicole Brossard, Bernard Comment, Frankétienne, Emmanuel Guibert and Dany Laferrière.

In his photography, Gérard Rondeau avoids formalism but instead seeks casual, intimate shots. His portraits, all in black and white, are playful, intriguing and original, using unfamiliar viewpoints and unique framing. But he has not confined himself to portraiture, far from it. He has traveled throughout the world: chronicled life in **Sarajevo** during its siege, portrayed contemporary **Morocco** while alluding to the paintings of Delacroix, followed **Médecins du Monde** doctors on their missions to some of the world's most dangerous hotspots. He has also realized a series of pictures entitled "Hors Cadre" ("Out of the Frame") on what happens backstage in great exhibitions put on by French museums. His photos have been exhibited in Paris, Jakarta (Indonesia), Buenos-Aires (Argentina), Rome (Italy), Lausanne (Switzerland), Berlin (Germany) and he has published over 30 books, including ***Gérard Rondeau, Chroniques d'un portraitiste 1986-2006*** (Seuil / Scérén-CNDP), which is connected to this exhibit.

The Cultural Services of the French Embassy would like to thank Air France, the Editions du Seuil, the Laboratoire Dupon (Paris) and the Relais & Châteaux - La Chapelle Saint-Martin (France) for their support.

Medium Resolution Photos
High Resolution Photos

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Head of the Book Department:
Fabrice Gabriel
Tel
Email

Press Attaché:
Amaury Laporte
Tel
Email