PRESS RELEASE

**ROBERT POLIDORI**

**Photographs**

Opening **Tuesday 20th March 2012**

7 pm

Robert Polidori will attend the opening

**on show from 21st March to 30th April 2012**

Monday to Sunday 11 am to 8 am

**10 Corso Como Seoul**

79 Cheongdam-dong Gangnam-gu Seoul Korea

**ROBERT POLIDORI**

**Photographs**

Considered one of the leading photographers of our time, Robert Polidori transcends the limits of photography and captures traces of the human condition-paradoxically, in places that have usually been abandoned and are devoid of human presence. Each photograph amounts to a social portrait, revealing the soul of its various subjects, and layering both past and present in poignant works steeped in sorrow and beauty.

The exhibition offers a survey of Polidori's practice through fifty-eight large colour photographs, including works from the main series he has produced in the last twenty-odd years. First, the Versailles series, in progress since 1985, brings to light the successive restorations undergone by this highly symbolic site that is part of our collective memory, awakening in viewers a pervasive sense of history.

The near-painterly Beirut (1994-1996), with its subtle colours and rendering of line and material, offers glimpses of the city's ruin that foreshadow the apocalyptic visions of the series that would follow. Havana (1997-2000) attests to a dual-faceted urban reality: the splendid past of these sumptuous colonial homes and the dilapidated present state of the same houses. Pripyat and Chernobyl (2001) makes us all witnesses to the worst nuclear catastrophe in history, which occurred in 1986. It reverberates with exile, devastation and abandonment. The destruction is complete in the series New Orleans (2005-2006), produced in the months that followed the dreadful Hurricane Katrina.

Complementing these works is a 1985 series focusing on New York and a critical exploration of the urban landscape through the buildings of Amman, Jordan (1996) and the streets of Varanasi, India (2007).

"Where you point the camera is the question," writes the artist, " and the picture you get is the answer to decipher." Answers that will go straight to the core of your being.

**BIOGRAPHY**

Robert Polidori was born in 1951 in Montreal, Quebec. He is considered one of the world's leading architectural photographers. His photographs of neglected and estranged cities including Chernobyl, La Havana and New Orleans in the aftermath of Katrina have received world wide acclaim. He is the author of several books, most recently *Parcous Muséologique Revisté*, an epic three volume collection of his Versailles. He has been awarded the *Alfred Eisenstaedt Award* for Magazine Photography in 1999 and 2000 and the *World Press Award* for his coverage of the Getty Museums construction in 1998. He is a regular contributor to *The New Yorker*.

**ROBERT POLIDORI**

1951 Born in Montreal, Canada

1980 M.A. from State University of New York at Buffalo

1998 Staff Photographer at the New Yorker Magazine

**SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

2010 Camera Work, Berlin

2009 Musee d’Art Contemporain, Montreal

2008 Ogden Museum, New Orleans

 Arthur Roger Gallery, New Orleans

2007 Nicholas Metivier Gallery, Toronto

2006 Metropolitan Museum, New York

 Edwynn Houk, New York

 Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin

2005 Flowers East, London

 Nicholas Metivier Gallery, Toronto

2004 Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, Mass.

 Weinstein Gallery, Minneapolis

2003 Pace/MacGill Gallery, New York

2000 Pace/MacGill Gallery, New York

1999 Weinstein Gallery, Minneapolis

 Robert Miller Gallery, New York

1997 Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris

 Robert Miller Gallery, New York

1991 Galerie Jaques Gordat, Paris

1990 Galerie Urbi et Orbi, Paris

1988 Atelier des Cannettes, Mois de la Photo, Paris

1983 Braathen Fine Arts, New York

1979 CEPA Gallery, Buffalo, New York

1975 Whitney Museum of Art-New Filmakers Program, New York

1970-75 Anthology Film Archives

**GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

2003 Camerawork, Berlin

2001 Grant Selwyn Fine Art, Los Angeles

1999 Preview IV, Weinstein Gallery, Minneapolis

1998 Weinstein Gallery, New York

 St. Paul Companies, St. Paul

1997 Robert Miller Gallery, New York

1994 Conseil Generale de la Nievre, Nevers, France

1989 Chicago Art Institute, Chicago 1982 Braathen Fine Arts, New York

1981 P. S. 1, Long Island City, New York

1980 Braathen-Gallozzi Gallery, New York

1978 International Center of Photography, New York

1975 Bykert Gallery, New York

**AWARDS**

2008 Nominee, Prix Pictet

2000 Alfred Eisenstadt Award for Magazine Photography, Architecture

1999 Alfred Eisenstadt Award for Magazine Photography, Architecture

1998 World Press Award for Art

**COLLECTIONS**

Metropolitan Museum, New York

Museum of Modern Art, New York

L. A. County Museum of Art, Los Angeles

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

Biblioteque National, Paris

Maison Europeen de la Photography, Paris

Foundacion “La Caixa,” Barcelona

The Link Group, Chicago

 First National City Bank, New York

The Santander Bank, New York

La Caisse des Depots et Consignations, Paris

Walker Art Center, Minneapolis

**PUBLICATIONS**

2008 Versailles, Editions Steidl

2006 After The Flood, Editions Steidl

2005 Metropolis, Editions Steidl, Gottingen, Germany

2003 Zones of Exclusion Pripyat and Chernobyl, Editions Steidl

2001 Havana, Photographs by Robert Polidori. Editions Steidl

 Palm Springs Weekend: The Architecture and Design of a Midcentury Oasis,

 Chronicle Books, San Francisco

1999 The Levant: History and Archeology in the Eastern Mediterranean, Konemann Verlag Gesselschaft, Cologne

1998 La Libye Antique: Cities perdues de L’Empire Romaine, Editions Menges, Paris;

 Konemann Verlag Gesselschart

1997 Chateaux de la Loire. Editions Menges; Konemann Verlag Gesselschart

 Sites Greco-Romaines de la Triploitane et Cyrenaique. Editions Menges;

 Konemann Verlag Gesselschart

1991 Versailles, Editions Menges, Abbeville Press, New York; Edizione Magnus, Milano;

 Konemann Verlag Gesselschaft