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**HIGH MUSEUM OF ART TO FEATURE CANDID PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN PHOTOGRAPHY**

ATLANTA, Aug. 31, 2012 — Just in time for the presidential election, the High Museum of Art will present “[Choose Me: Arthur Grace’s Portraits of a Presidential Race](#),” a unique collection of candid photographs from the 1988 presidential campaign. The exhibition, which features promised gifts from the collection of Annie and Paul Mahon, will open on Sept. 15 and remain on view through Jan. 6, 2013.

In 1988, Arthur Grace, a professional photojournalist on assignment for *Newsweek* magazine, had unfettered access to all the presidential hopefuls as they traveled the country vying for their party’s nomination and ultimately the presidency itself. The result is a never before (or since) seen intimate portrait of the theatrics of politics, captured in real time as it unfolded before Grace’s camera over a 15 month period.

With more than 30 square-format black-and-white photographs of George Bush, Bob Dole, Jesse Jackson, Al Gore and Michael Dukakis, among others, “Choose Me” provides a quirky, yet distinctively human look at the 1988 campaign.

“Grace’s work was made with unguarded access that is virtually impossible to achieve today, making his work significant in the history of documentary photography,” said Brett Abbott, curator of photography at the High Museum of Art.

Grace has worked as a photojournalist since 1972, covering stories for United Press International, *The New York Times*, *Time*, *Newsweek* and the Sygma Photo Agency. His photographs have appeared in leading news publications worldwide including on the covers of *Time*, *Life*, *Newsweek* and *The New York Times Magazine*.

In addition to his journalistic work, Grace has also published three photographic books: *Choose Me: Portraits of a Presidential Race*, *Comedians* and *State Fair*. Grace’s fourth book, *America 101*, thematically explores in 101 images, culled from his 40 year archive, the basic DNA that in his view defines us as Americans. *America 101* also features an essay by Brett Abbott and will be released in October by Fall Line Press.

Grace's work has been exhibited in galleries and museums in the United States and Europe, and his photographs are in the permanent collections of numerous museums including the J. Paul Getty Museum, the National Portrait Gallery at the Smithsonian and the International Center of Photography. His photojournalistic archives are held at the Center for American History at the University of Texas.

### **High Museum of Art**

Founded in 1905 as the Atlanta Art Association, the High is the leading art museum in the southeastern U.S. With more than 13,000 works of art in its permanent collection, the High Museum of Art has an extensive anthology of 19th- and 20th-century American and decorative art; significant holdings of European paintings; a growing collection of African American art; and burgeoning collections of modern and contemporary art, photography and African art. The High is also dedicated to supporting and collecting works by Southern artists and is distinguished as the only major museum in North America to have a curatorial department specifically devoted to the field of folk and self-taught art. The High's media arts department produces acclaimed annual film series and festivals of foreign, independent and classic cinema. In November 2005 the High opened three new buildings by architect Renzo Piano that more than doubled the Museum's size, creating a vibrant "village for the arts" at the Woodruff Arts Center in Midtown Atlanta. For more information about the High visit, [www.High.org](http://www.High.org).

### **The Woodruff Arts Center**

The Woodruff Arts Center is ranked among the top four arts centers in the nation. The Woodruff is unique in that it combines four visual and performing arts divisions on one campus as one not-for-profit organization. Opened in 1968, the Woodruff Arts Center is home to the Alliance Theatre, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the High Museum of Art and Young Audiences. To learn more about the Woodruff Arts Center visit [www.woodruffcenter.org](http://www.woodruffcenter.org).

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### **DIGITAL IMAGES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**

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