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Palms For Life Fund Presents: Art for Life: Children and Dreams featuring works by Andy Warhol

Sunday, 10 June 2012 Palms for Life Fund is delighted to present Art for Life: Children and Dreams, an exhibition to benefit Palms for Life Fund to raise money for children and families living in poverty around the world. Paintings by Ecuadorian artist, Luis Salazar, photographs by Swiss photographer and filmmaker, Fabrizio Chiesa, and drawings and prints by famed pop-artist, Andy Warhol, will be on display for sale at the chashama Gallery at 655 Third Avenue (between 41st and 42nd St). Palms for Life is grateful for the support of the artists as well as the generous loans of the works of Andy Warhol from the Josÿe Bienvenu Gallery, New York.

This exhibition is curated to feature works representing the themes of children and dreams, and follows the course of a pendulum. Swinging from the rich colorful paintings of the Luis Salazar Collection for Art for Life-including a striking painting of Michelle Obama in the style of Gustav Klimt, inspired by her advocacy for children's health and nutrition-the exhibition moves to the rich black and white photographs of Chiesa. In between these two extremes the exhibit's five works by Warhol serve as moments of transition and pause. Situated between Salazar and Chiesa's powerful subjects, the sparse graphite and ink drawings take the viewer down into simple images of children and figures. The arc of the show then swings back up, as the viewer once again enters a world of richness and tonality, this time in black and white in Chiesa's portraits of Ecuadorian street children.

"I am very proud to introduce these accomplished artists to our supporters and friends," Hannah Laufer-Rottman, Founder and Executive Director of Palms for Life said. "The images they use and the stories that they tell are so compelling that they elude any cultural differences and demonstrate how inextricably connected we all are," Ms. Laufer-Rottman said. "This encompasses our philosophy at Palms for Life, one in which we believe that there is just one degree of separation between the poor and the rich."

Palms for Life Fund was founded in 2006 in NYC to promote access to food, clean water, and education worldwide. It has impacted the lives of thousands of people around the world and generated program grants valuing over \$4 million. It operates in countries such as Ecuador, Mozambique, Swaziland, Burkina Faso, India and Haiti, and in the U.S. where hunger affects more than 60 million Americans. Through Art for Life, Palms for Life works with artists to generate funds and gives the American public an opportunity to connect globally by supporting social investment projects.

"I know what it means for poor people to live a life with no hope for the future. And I know with complete certainty that we can make a difference and that the cycle of poverty can be broken by joining palms. By working together we can make it happen now, and for all" Ms. Laufer-Rottman said.

About the artists:

Fabrizio Chiesa: Mr. Chiesa began his career as a journalist, screenwriter and producer. After having directed commercials, music videos and experimental short films, he was commissioned by a private collector to make a video installation of Zen Buddhist meditation. Since then, his work exploring the subject of self- knowledge - through meditation, dreams and the Tarot - has been shown in galleries and theaters around the world. Mr. Chiesa is Swiss and lives in New York and Paris.

Luis Salazar: Mr. Salazar was born in Quito, Ecuador and at the age of 21, enrolled in the Art Faculty of the Central University in Quito. He began to pursue a career in photography, but soon became passionate about painting. He took classes with Maestro Oswaldo Viteri and traveled to Cuba to pursue his studies. His most recent exhibits include: Amerindia at the Ecuadorian Embassy in Berlin, Arts for a Better World in Miami, chashama 30 West gallery in New York City, the Orbankai International Cafe in Landshut, Germany, the Meguro Art Museum in Tokyo, National Art Gallery in Malaysia, Casa de las Americas in La Havana, Jack Meier Gallery in Houston, Texas, and many other individual and collective exhibits in Ecuador. Luis teaches Art History and lives in Quito.

chashama Gallery

655 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017

Tuesday, June 12 - Wednesday, June 20, 2012

Opening Reception: Tuesday, June 12, 2012 6:00pm to 8:00pm

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