YOSSI MILO GALLERY

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June Bride June 7 – August 17, 2007 Opening Reception: Thursday, June 7, 2007

Yossi Milo Gallery is pleased to announce *June Bride,* a summer group show on view from Thursday, June 7, through Friday, August 17, 2007, with an opening reception on Thursday, June 7, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

June Bride provides an uncommon look at a common practice: the marriage ceremony. In this assembly of unconventional wedding photographs, the idea of the bride varies as radically as do cultural differences, religious traditions, family dynamics, and modes of dress. Brides appear in various guises, from Diane Arbus' bride shrinking from her groom's overeager kiss to Nikki S. Lee's impersonation of a Jewish bride, from a bride captured in mid-air, as in Rosemary Laing's *bulletproofglass* series, to an earnest, middle-American bride in a family photo by Chris Verene.

The photographers of these varied works utilize and, at times, reformulate the image of the bride as a symbol of transition, ritual and traditional femininity. For example, in Arthur Tress' *Stephen Brecht, Bride and Groom, New York, 1970*, the actor plays the role of both bride and groom in the artist's exploration of gender and identity. In the photograph of his 1995 performance piece, *To Marry a Mule*, Chinese artist Wang Jin places a pink-painted and lavishly-adorned mule as a stand-in for his own "bride-to-be". There are larger narratives and diverse intentions behind these photographs, providing a glimpse into the ritual of marriage and allowing us to reflect on how we have come to view, define and transform the wedding ceremony.

Artists featured in the exhibition include Diane Arbus, Tracey Baran, Valérie Belin, Lee Friedlander, Robert Gober, Nan Goldin, Wang Jin, Seydou Keïta, Rosemary Laing, Nikki S. Lee, Loretta Lux, Robert Mapplethorpe, Karl O. Orud, Bill Owens, August Sander, Lise Sarfati, Rudolf Schwarzkogler, Malick Sidibé, Alec Soth, Arthur Tress, Chris Verene and Akram Zaatari.

> Gallery hours are Tuesday – Saturday 10AM – 6PM. Beginning July 9, summer hours are Monday – Friday 10AM – 6PM.

For more information, please contact Alissa Schoenfeld at 212.414.0370 or alissa@yossimilo.com, or visit the gallery's web site at <u>www.yossimilo.com</u>