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THE SHELDON ART GALLERIES TO OPEN MAJOR EXHIBIT OF PHOTOGRAPHS FOCUSING ON THE IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE

ST. LOUIS, MO - The Sheldon Art Galleries celebrates its 20th Anniversary milestone season with a major exhibit featuring icons of photography, and several other complementary exhibits focusing on the immigrant experience. *The Immigrants: Works by Master Photographers* runs from **October 5, 2018 – January 12, 2019** in the Gallery of Photography. An opening reception is scheduled for **Friday, October 5 from 5 - 7 p.m.** Galleries open until 9 p.m. for First Fridays in Grand Center. Gallery hours are Tuesdays, Noon – 8 p.m.; Wednesdays – Fridays, Noon – 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and one hour prior to Sheldon performances and during intermission. Admission is free. For more information on exhibitions, visit TheSheldon.org. *The exhibition is made possible in part by Capes Sokol, Karen and Dr. Lawrence Kotner, and Barbara and Arthur McDonnell.*

Gallery Talk: Tuesday, November 20, 2018 at 6 p.m. Olivia Lahs-Gonzales, Director of the Sheldon Art Galleries, will speak on selected works in the exhibit. Admission free. Reservations suggested. Contact Paula Lincoln at 314-533-9900 x37 or plincolin@TheSheldon.org.



The Immigrants: Works by Master Photographers, curated by Pak So, a former Director of the Howard Greenberg Gallery, New York, focuses on the immigrant experience as told through the photographs of major icons from the history of photography. The works depict moments of hardship and sacrifice, pride and achievement. The exhibit is one of four exhibits at the Sheldon Art Galleries this fall, mounted in celebration of the galleries' 20th anniversary, themed to celebrate local and national immigrant communities. Issues relating to immigration are front and center in today's world, from the recent travel ban to the border wall to the uncertainty of the DREAMers, bringing special relevancy to this topic.

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Sheldon Art Galleries/ *The Immigrants: Works by Master Photographers*
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The Immigrants surveys the work of more than 40 photographers from the 1860s - 2015, examining issues of labor, education and poverty as well as discrimination, assimilation and a sense of belonging. More than 50 images exploring these important topics will be on view, by Ansel Adams, Boushra Almutawakel, Margaret Bourke-White, Manuel Alvarez Bravo, Edward Burtynsky, Robert Capa, Imogen Cunningham, Bruce Davidson, Robert Frank, Ernst Haas, Lewis Hine, Dorothea Lange, Alex Majoli, Ruth Orkin, Bill Owens, Gordon Parks, Dulce Pinzón, Augustus Frederick Sherman, Alfred Stieglitz, Tseng Kwong Chi and Alex Webb.

Tracing the immigrant's journey, the photographs lead viewers through sections on otherness, growth, global issues, boundaries, work and the history of the United States. In addition to iconic images such as Alfred Stieglitz's *The Steerage*, 1907 and Lewis Hine's *Jewish Grandmother, Ellis Island*, 1926, the exhibit also features a historic work by Augustus Frederick Sherman, who documented new arrivals while working as a clerk at the Ellis Island immigration station from 1892 to 1925. A rarely seen Dorothea Lange photograph about the incarceration of Japanese Americans by the U.S. during WWII will also be on view. Withheld from the public during the war, Lange's photographs reveal a hidden truth about a dark chapter in our nation's history.

Other memorable photographs include a touching 1951 portrait of three Jewish teenage refugees who are fleeing to Israel from Iraq, and a photograph by Bob Gruen of John Lennon posing in front of the Statue of Liberty in 1972. More recent images include a 2005 print by Dulce Pinzón that shows a young man, Noe Reyes from the state of Puebla, dressed in a Superman costume, riding a bike. Reyes works as a delivery person in Brooklyn and sends \$500 home to his family each week. Today's refugee crisis is documented in a haunting photograph by Alex Majoli of refugees from the African continent to Greece. These and many more works by important photographers tell the story of the lives of immigrants throughout the world.

From its founding in 1998 to this fall's opening of six new exhibitions, the Sheldon Art Galleries have made their mark on the arts landscape for the past 20 years with some of the most unique, thought-provoking and diverse exhibitions in St. Louis. In this time, the Sheldon Art Galleries has organized or hosted 327 exhibits, and presented countless educational programs for young people and adults, which are offered free to the community.

Financial Assistance to the Galleries are provided by the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency and by the Regional Arts Commission and the Arts and Education Council.

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Image Caption: Lewis Wickes Hine, (American, 1874 – 1940), *Jewish Grandmother, Ellis Island*, 1926 gelatin silver print, 13 3/8 x 10 3/8 inches; printed c. 1935, courtesy of the Howard Greenberg Gallery, New York.