HARC AWARD EMERGING PHOTOGRAPHER & EMERGING PLAYWRIGHT RECIPIENTS PRESENT PREMIERES OF WINNING WORKS TO BENEFIT EMERGING CREATIVE ARTISTS

LOS ANGELES (OCTOBER 4, 2010) – 2010 Emerging Photographer HARC Award Recipient, A.M. Rousseau's "Surveillance Frameworks" Photo Exhibit, a Photographic Series Premiere which includes the Winning Work "Crowd on Blue Floors", will be presented together with 2008/2009 Emerging Playwright HARC Award Runner-Up Recipient, Robert Michael Morris's play, *Bringing Out The Beauty*, a Workshop Production Premiere on Saturday, October 30, 2010 at 3:00 P.M. and repeated again at 6:30 P.M. at Highways Performance Space & Gallery located at 1651 18th Street (In the 18th Street Arts Center), Santa Monica, CA 90404. Free parking is available in the Arts Center/Highways parking lot and on surrounding streets. The Premieres are part of The HARC Foundation's 20th Anniversary Celebration Event, "Gifts From The Soul", and will include a Spanish Fiesta Reception of Tapas & Spanish Wines. Festive attire is requested.

Ms. Rousseau's Photo Exhibit, "Surveillance Frameworks", explores ideas around the subject of public space and private lives in relation to contemporary surveillance, particularly that aspect of how we occupy the spaces of urban and other environments, knowing that we are constantly being watched, appraised, surveyed, inspected, monitored and recorded. While much of present-day surveillance is meant to track criminals and wrongdoers or to collect buying habits, the aspect of surveillance explored here has more to do with the inward gaze manifest in the public arena. In all this watching, what is not seen yet is still very much present.

Famous American character actor and Theatre World Award winner, Warren Berlinger, will play the lead role of Matisse in the Premiere of Mr. Morris's play, *Bringing Out The Beauty*, co-starring wellknown actors Mary Jo Duprey as Mother Gilles and Nicole DuPort as Sister Jacques Marie. The play, directed by Princess Grace Award-Winning Theatre Director Patrick Kennelly, is about friendship, devotion and the creative power of beauty. It's based on the true story of Henri Matisse in his declining years and his relationship with two nuns while designing and constructing his last great masterpiece, The Chapelle du Rosaire in Vence, France.

The Saturday afternoon and evening event, "Gifts From The Soul", is being presented by The HARC Foundation to benefit The HARC Awards and The HARC Creative Arts Therapy (CAT) Awards. The HARC Foundation is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) foundation dedicated to preserving and promoting the value of creative arts and creative artists in America as well as rehabilitating abused and neglected children through the creative arts.

Tickets are \$35 donation per person (\$25 Seniors & Students), tax deductible as allowed by law, and can be purchased by calling HARC at 310.821.0419 and sending a check to The HARC Foundation at P.O. Box 11596, Marina Del Rey, CA 90295.

A.M. Rousseau is a multi-disciplined photographer, artist and writer who has exhibited her work in many solo shows in New York, New Jersey, Texas, Ohio, California, Illinois, North Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Europe and Japan. Her work has been published in many magazines including Life Magazine, The Photo Review, Art in America, The New York Times and The Boston Globe. Her profiles of photographers and critical writings have appeared in Photo Review and Photo Metro. Ms. Rousseau has taught in many different kinds of venues including shelters for the homeless and drug rehabilitation centers as well as at Baruch College in New York and Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa. In her early work as a photojournalist, Rousseau focused on the subject of homelessness in America as it impacted the lives of women. Eventually, she traveled around the country interviewing homeless women in different cities. The work became a book entitled <u>Shopping Bag Ladies: Homeless Women</u> <u>Speak About Their Lives</u> published by Pilgrim Press. Rousseau spoke frequently on the subject of homelessness and appeared on many radio and television shows. One of the interviews was used as the basis of a CBS movie called "Stone Pillow" starring Lucille Ball in one of her last dramatic roles.

She received her undergraduate degree from the Massachusetts College of Art, Boston, MA, a Master's Degree in Fine Art from Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY and attended the New York Studio School for Painting and Sculpture. She is the recipient of a National Endowment in the Arts Fellowship in Photography, the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Artist Residency and the Manhattan Borough President's Award for Excellence and Service in the Arts among other awards. She lived most of her life in New York City and currently resides in Costa Mesa, CA.

Robert Michael Morris was born in Kentucky, entered a religious Order of Men (The Society of Mary) where he taught for ten years in various High Schools, received an MFA in playwriting at Catholic University of America, for two years toured the U.S. with National Players – America's oldest classical touring company, taught college for thirteen years in two different states as Director of Theatre/Performing Arts, lived in New York as a struggling actor for ten years and finally moved to California where he taught high school in two private academies.

After losing his teaching position due to financial cut-backs, he auditioned for a role in the HBO comedy, THE COMEBACK, and became a regular cast member of the show – working with Lisa Kudrow, Michael Patrick King and Malin Ackerman. He later worked on ARRESTED DEVEOPMENT, WILL & GRACE, HOW I MET YOUR MOTHER, THE CLASS and BROTHERS AND SISTERS. During all this time he has been writing plays in every form - some comedies, some serious. Many of his scripts are historically based and are carefully researched. He has plays about Anna Magnani, Alice Roosevelt Longworth, Michelangelo, Edith Sitwell, Pope John Paul the First and Matisse. His book of forty-five short stories in verse, <u>An American Scrapbook</u>, was published by Incarnate Word Press and creates the life of a mythical American town at the turn of the century. Each poem/short story is based on a photograph of a person taken from an antique album purchased at a flea market. He is currently working in New York as a regular cast member of the new FOX sit com, RUNNING WILDE, with Will Arnet and Keri Russell.

The HARC Foundation is a California non-profit organization formed in 1990 with the dual purpose to discover, recognize, nurture and support emerging creative artists from all art disciplines and to use the creative arts as a therapeutic science in the rehabilitation of abused and neglected children. It's core mission is to help qualified emerging American Creative Artists by identifying their needs and providing solutions through Foundation programs that will benefit their livelihood and encourage achievement of their artistic potential. HARC is publicly supported, funded by individual and corporate donations and grants. It holds annual national Creative Arts competitions, with winners selected from the five main arts disciplines: Fine Arts, Visual Arts, Music, Dance, and Literature. Cash awards, publicity and presentation opportunities are granted for each division. In addition, HARC grants Creative Arts Therapy cash awards to qualified creative artists who wish to become licensed Music Therapists, Clinical Art Therapists, Dance Therapists, Drama Therapists or Writing Therapists.

For further information about The HARC Foundation or to obtain ticket information, please call 310.821.0419 or see http://www.harcfoundation.org.