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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – BOSTON

**Robert Klein Gallery and Ars Libri, Ltd., Proudly Present Photographs by Michael Kenna**



© Michael Kenna, *Odeon Theatre, Study I, Paris, France, 2011*

*MICHAEL KENNA: A DECADE IN REVIEW*

Exhibition Dates: September 7 – 29, 2012

BOSTON, MA – The Robert Klein Gallery and Ars Libri, Ltd., are proud to present exquisite black and white photographs by Michael Kenna. The exhibition, *Michael Kenna: A Decade in Review*, will open at Ars Libri, Ltd., on Friday, September 7, as part of the South End's First Friday.

For forty years, Kenna has worked with his camera to create balanced, minimalist compositions in black and white. Imbued with melancholy, Kenna's photographs are the documents of a solitary traveler observing the world from afar. "His prints are exquisitely seductive, spiritual experiences, akin to poetry or music," writes photographer Ruth Bernhard in Kenna's monograph *A Twenty Year Retrospective*. "They strike somber chords yet they contain a mystical light that is both wistful and luminous, a light that emanates from some mysterious source."

"Kenna is as thoughtful about light, space, and texture now as he was twenty, thirty years ago." says gallery owner Robert Klein. "It is a pleasure to see this comprehensive grouping of Kenna's photographs together at once."

*A Decade in Review* will feature photographs taken in Italy, Japan, France, China, and the United States between 2000 and 2012.

An opening reception will be held on Friday, September 7, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. The general public is welcome; light refreshments will be served.

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**MICHAEL KENNA** was born in 1953 in Widnes, Lancashire, in the industrial northwest of England. He studied at the Banbury School of Art and the London College of Printing, graduating with distinction in 1976. In London, Kenna undertook advertising photography while pursuing his personal work – photographing the landscape. In 1977, he moved to San Francisco, where he met Ruth Bernhard and became her assistant and photographic printmaker for eight years.

Kenna's quiet approach to the environment provides a glimpse into the provocative and subtle serenity of landscape photography. He creates dreamlike scenes by combining innovative and traditional photographic techniques. The results are soft, stark, enigmatic views of gardens, industrial sites, land, and seascapes from around the world. Kenna's contemplative photographs are, in his words, much closer to haiku poetry than full-length prose.

Kenna's photographs are in the collections of the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, France; the Chicago Institute of Art, Chicago, IL; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA; the Victoria & Albert Museum, London, England; and the Denver Art Museum, Denver, CO.

**ARS LIBRI, LTD.**, the internationally renowned rare bookdealer in the field of art, architecture, and photography, continues to show changing selections from its stock in its gallery at 500 Harrison Avenue. These include rare illustrated books, photographs, posters, and documents of Dada, Surrealism, Expressionism, Pop, Fluxus, and other modern art movements, as well as Renaissance and Baroque architectural treatises, Islamic manuscripts, nineteenth-century photographs, and classic livres d'artiste by Picasso and Matisse.

500 Harrison Avenue, Boston, MA. 02118  
617.357.5212  
<http://www.arslibri.com>  
Monday – Friday: 9 AM – 6 PM  
Saturday: 11 AM – 5 PM

The **ROBERT KLEIN GALLERY** was established in 1980 and ranks among the world's most prestigious showrooms of fine art photography.

Robert Klein opened his Newbury Street space with early exhibitions of Diane Arbus, Annie Leibovitz, Sally Mann, and Hiroshi Sugimoto. From 1995 through 2008, Robert served as President of the Board of Directors of the Association of International Photography Art Dealers (AIPAD). During his tenure, Robert engineered the 2006 expansion of The AIPAD Photography Show New York to the Park Avenue Armory. The AIPAD Photography Show's move firmly established it as one of the leading photographic fairs in the world. Robert continues to serve on AIPAD's Board of Directors.

The Robert Klein Gallery maintains an extensive and ever-changing inventory of 19th century, 20th century, and contemporary photographs. Participating in international art fairs such as Paris Photo, The Armory Show – Modern, and The AIPAD Photography Show in New York, the Robert Klein Gallery provides its contemporary artists with international exposure while exhibiting works by recognized masters such as Ansel Adams, Helen Levitt, and Irving Penn. With 40 combined years of experience and a profound knowledge base, the gallery staff is committed to serving as a resource for both novice and seasoned collectors.

38 Newbury Street, Boston, MA, 02116  
617.267.7997  
<http://www.robertkleingallery.com>  
Tuesday – Friday: 10 AM – 5:30 PM  
Saturday: 11 AM – 5 PM

*Please contact Maja Orsic at the Robert Klein Gallery with any inquiries.  
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