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BMA EXHIBITS CONTEMPORARY IMAGES BY ACCLAIMED GERMAN PHOTOGRAPHER CANDIDA HÖFER

New monumental photographs of the Peabody Library & Walters shown with the Paris Opera and Louvre

BALTIMORE, MD (September 14, 2011)—In September 2010, internationally acclaimed contemporary German photographer Candida Höfer focused her camera on two of Baltimore’s most venerable cultural institutions: The Johns Hopkins University’s George Peabody Library and the Walters Art Museum. A selection of the resulting images will make their Baltimore debut in *Candida Höfer: Interior Worlds*. On view at the BMA from **November 16, 2011 through February 26, 2012**, the exhibition features 13 breathtaking images of European and American interiors that demonstrate how the artist goes beyond documenting architecture to capture moments of contemplative beauty.



Höfer’s images of the Peabody Library and Walters Art Museum contrast the exciting cast iron decoration in the library’s late 19th-century reading room with the refined Italian Renaissance-inspired space of the early 20th-century museum interior. These enormous works, each more than six feet tall, are complemented by the artist’s spectacular images of the State Art Gallery in Karlsruhe, Germany (1999); Basel University Public Library in Switzerland (1999); Bregenz Art Museum in Germany (1999); Library of the Royal Academy of Language in Madrid, Spain (2000); Harvard University Art Museum in Cambridge, Massachusetts (2001); Louvre Museum in Paris, France (2005); Palais Garnier Opera House in Paris, France (2005); Library of the Archiginnasio

in Bologna, Italy (2006); and Jerónimos Monastery in Lisbon, Portugal (2006). The works in the exhibition are loaned by the artist and private collectors and are installed in two neoclassical galleries adjacent to the BMA’s collection of 17th- and 18th-century European paintings.

This exhibition is generously sponsored by Robert E. Meyerhoff and Rheda Becker.

CANDIDA HÖFER

Known for her intensely detailed images of grand architectural spaces, Höfer (born 1944) is among an important group of artists that emerged from the Düsseldorf Academy in the 1980s under the tutelage of influential photographers Bernd and Hilla Becher. These artists transformed the formal and conceptual ambitions of their medium by repeatedly focusing their lenses on carefully defined subjects and expanding the size of their lushly colored images to rival painting. Höfer’s meticulously composed photographs of rooms in libraries, museums, theaters, cafés, universities, and other centers of cultural life have been featured in numerous solo exhibitions in museums throughout Europe and the United States, including the Kunsthallen in Basel and Bern, Portikus in

Frankfurt am Main, and the Power Plant in Toronto. She has participated in group exhibitions at the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Museum Ludwig, Cologne; and Documenta 11. She represented Germany at the Venice Biennale in 2003 and is represented by galleries in Europe and the United States. She lives and works in Cologne, Germany.

THE BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART

The Baltimore Museum of Art is home to an internationally renowned collection of 19th-century, modern, and contemporary art. Founded in 1914, the BMA's outstanding collection encompasses 90,000 works of art, including the largest and most significant holding of works by Henri Matisse in the world, as well as masterpieces by Pablo Picasso, Paul Cézanne, and Vincent van Gogh. An expanding collection of contemporary art features iconic post-1960 works by Andy Warhol and Sol LeWitt, as well as exciting acquisitions by artists such as Kara Walker and Olafur Eliasson. The BMA is also recognized for an internationally acclaimed collection of prints, drawings, and photographs from the 15th-century to the present; grand European painting and sculpture from Old Masters to the 19th-century; distinguished American painting, sculpture, and decorative arts and Maryland period rooms; one of the most important African collections in the country, and notable examples of Asian, ancient American, and Pacific Islands art.

VISITOR INFORMATION

General admission to the BMA is free; special exhibitions may be ticketed. The BMA is open Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m.–6 p.m. (except major holidays). The Museum is closed Monday, Tuesday, New Year's Day, July 4, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. The BMA is located on Art Museum Drive at North Charles and 31st Streets, three miles north of Baltimore's Inner Harbor. For general Museum information, call 443-573-1700 or visit artbma.org.

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Candida Höfer. *George Peabody Library Baltimore*. 2010. Courtesy of the artist and Sonnabend Gallery, New York