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Contact: Denise Leaser

800.928.9098

denise@davidleaser.com

LOS ANGELES ARTIST CREATES FLOWERS IMAGES WITH TECHNOLOGY FROM MARS

Los Angeles, CA November 4, 2011 – Using technology used by NASA on Mars, Los Angeles photographer David Leaser has created *Nightflowers II*, a followup to his first collection of botanical images that shows large scale flowers with such detail you can literally see the pollen glistening on the stamens.

The images originally attracted the attention of *Architectural Digest*, and the collection debuted at their 10th Anniversary Home Design Show on March 17, 2011 in New York City.

Ann Landi, contributing editor for ARTnews, wrote, “*Nightflowers* seduce us as only an unforgettable work of art can: with an invitation to look, and look again.”

Another art critic said, “While so much modern art is confrontational, political and religious, David’s *Nightflowers* are provocative, but they lower your blood pressure at the same time.”

To capture the intense detail of these flowers, Leaser literally had to create a new process. “Traditional camera equipment just didn’t work,” Leaser said. “The images just weren’t sharp enough to enlarge to these sizes, which measure about four feet across.” So, after months of trial and error, he developed a process using sophisticated imaging techniques, including technology from NASA’s missions to Mars. Some are calling it the *dettagli* process because of the incredible detail in the images. “When you see these large canvases, you literally get a bees-eye view into the flower. You will see things you normally wouldn’t even notice, like the tiny hairs on an orchid,” Leaser said.

John Mendelsohn, reviewer of contemporary art for ArtNet, writes, “Art has always asked us to pay attention to the world in all its darkness and in all its outrageous beauty. David Leaser’s *Nightflowers*, a series of striking photographs, confronts us with nature at its most flamboyant. In his images, this photographer creates fantastic, contemporary signs from nature’s own high style. They are highly detailed visual records and an artist’s vision of how he apprehends reality.”

The inspiration for this innovation began in the depths of the Amazon. Leaser said, “I was in the Ecuadorean Amazon shooting landscapes but found myself drawn to the small flowers on the floor of the rainforest. You can see complete ecosystems in these flowers if you look closely enough. When I came back to Los Angeles, I spent months experimenting with technology until I was able to recreate these highly detailed views.

“I’ve been working on *Nightflowers* for more than three years, and now with the release of *Nightflowers II*, the collection includes 50 exotic images that I hope will make a difference in people’s lives,” Leaser said.

David Leaser has authored four books, including two photographic monographs. Leaser’s *Tropical Gardens of Hawaii* and *Palm Trees: A Story in Photographs* have received critical acclaim; the latter was also featured at the Museum of Photographic Arts in San Diego. For more information on David Leaser, visit <http://davidleaser.com/> or <http://www.facebook.com/DavidLeaserFineArt>

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For information and photographs, contact Denise Leaser at (805) 280-9914 or visit <http://davidleaser.com/> to download text and high resolution images.