

Press Release

Colours of Africa features a collection of the works of celebrated photographers **Carol Beckwith and Angela Fisher**.

Carol and Angela travelled separately in Africa for some twenty years, and then came together in a ten-year project documenting 43 ceremonies in 26 countries to create a visual record of the rapidly disappearing rites and cultures of the vast continent. The culmination is their two-volume book, *African Ceremonies*, published to great acclaim in 1999. Photos from the book have been exhibited throughout the world.

Some of their previous exhibition venues include: Brooklyn Museum of Art, New York, 2000, Staley-Wise Gallery, New York, 2000, International Africa Festival, Würzburg, Germany, 2000, Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson, 2002, Santiago, Chile, 2002

AWARDS they have received include:

United Nations Award of Excellence

United Nations Society of Writers and Artists, 1999

"For vision and understanding of the role of cultural traditions in the pursuit of peace in the world"

Annisfield-Wolf Book Award, 1991

African Ark: "For outstanding contributions to the understanding of cultural diversity and prejudice"

Biarritz Photography Festival, France, 2000

African Ceremonies: "Best photography book"

Cherry Kearton Medal and Award

Royal Geographical Society of London, 2000

"For contributions to the photographic recording of African ethnography and ritual"

Golden Handy of Lucy

Institute of Human Origins, United States, 1990

"For cultural studies of mankind"

Angela Fisher was born in Australia and educated at Adelaide University. She is the author of the internationally acclaimed *Africa Adorned* (Abrams), a 14 year study of traditional jewellery and body decoration covering the entire continent of Africa. It was a Book-of-the-Month Club selection and the subject of a National Geographic 34-page cover story. Her second book *African Ark*, with Carol Beckwith, received the Institute of Human Origins prize, *The Golden Hands of Lucy*, and the Annisfield-Wolf Award in Race Relations.

Carol Beckwith was born in the United States and educated at Boston Museum of Fine Arts. She has been cited by United Press International as "foremost among photographers who have recorded the cultures of the Far East, Pacific and Africa.

She is the author of three previous books on African cultures, all published by Abrams. Her first, *Maasai*, won the prestigious Annisfield-Wolf Award in Race Relations; her second, *Nomads of Niger*, was based on her three-year experience living with the Wodabbe nomads and is the subject of her National Geographic film *Way of the Wodabbe*. Her third book, *African Ark*, with Angela Fisher, is the study of the people and cultures of the Horn of Africa.

The exhibition features a collection of 14 of their most beautiful portraits covering some of their most unique and colourful works all individually autographed by the artists. This is the first-time

ever release in Australia and is brought to you by **Focus Artefacts**.

Exhibition details:

Where: Art Moments Gallery, Suite 1, 99 Curlewis St, Bondi Beach, 2026 Sydney NSW

When: Exhibition May 10th-20th

Opening: May 10th 6pm – 9pm

Opened By: His Excellency Mr JL Lanyasunya, High Commissioner for Kenya

Hours: Tues - Thurs 11am - 7pm Fri & Sun 11am - 4pm

Closed: Mon, Sat & Public Holidays

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