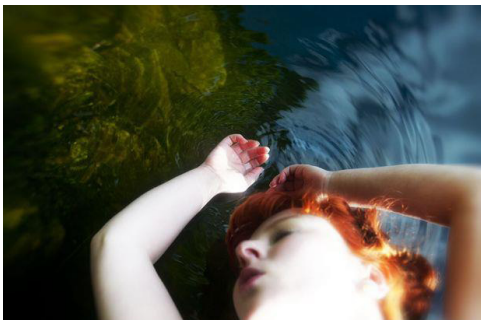




## OPEN SHOW Los Angeles at Venice Arts Gallery

LOS ANGELES, CA – (AUGUST 28, 2012)

On Wednesday, August 29, 2012, from 7:30 until 9:30pm, Venice Arts Gallery will host the 15th installment of OPEN SHOW Los Angeles. This will be Venice Arts' fourth time partnering with OPEN SHOW since the project launched in 2010. OPEN SHOW provides a unique opportunity for visual storytellers to share their artwork and their passions with our local community. Several times a year, OPEN SHOW gathers photographers, filmmakers, and multimedia producers together with Los Angeleno art lovers to discuss and enjoy beautiful works of art. The live presentations of each artist's work are followed by lively discussions, which encourage viewer participation and feedback. Together, artists and communities act to create a dynamic environment within which art appreciation thrives. A social reception precedes the presentations.



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### Venice Arts

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This event will feature photography from four Los Angeles-based contemporary photographers: Michele Morris, Charles Christopher, Lori Pond, and Ken Chernus. Michele Morris will be exhibiting work from her series entitled "Big Sky" which includes stunning landscape photographs and striking sunset moments. Charles Christopher will be presenting photographs from "Venetian Souls." Chris is an LA-based photographer, specializing in on-set movie stills and architectural interiors; He is currently working on his own book of photographs of Venice, Italy, with original texts by fellow Venetophiles such as Woody Allen, Julie Christie, Hutton Wilkinson, Claire Bloom, Paul Mazursky, James Conlon, and Fabio. Lori Pond's dreamlike photography offers a taste of the surreal. She describes her artistic process as "not concerned with depicting reality as we see it, but instead [I] enjoy altering reality just enough to open a window into the viewer's imagination." She will feature works from the series entitled "Self." Ken Chernus occupies the other end of the professional photography spectrum, working as a

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TOP TO BOTTOM:

Photographs by Ken Chernus Charles  
Christopher, Lori Pond, and Michele Morris

commercial advertising photographer in Los Angeles. Known for his love of the portrait, Ken creates real and honest images that capture unique and hidden moments of beauty within his subjects.

Venice Arts' current exhibition, "Venice Family Dog: Photographs by Susan Rennie" will also be on view. The exhibition features over 60 portraits of Venice families and their dogs, capturing the uniqueness and variety of the Venice community through the specificity of the family portrait.

### **About Venice Arts**

Venice Arts runs education and mentoring programs in documentary photography, filmmaking, and multimedia primarily targeting Los Angeles area low-income youth. Venice Arts also implements regional, statewide, and international projects with both adults and children; runs the Institute for Photographic Empowerment, a collaboration with the USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism; presents exhibitions, public programs, and workshops for adults centered around documentary photography and film at the Venice Arts Gallery; and consults on media arts, visual storytelling, and arts education with organizations and groups locally and internationally.

On Saturday, November 3, Venice Arts will celebrate its 19th Anniversary with a Gala Celebration in its newly renovated gallery and media arts center at 1702 Lincoln Boulevard. The event will honor longtime supporters Karen & Dann Florek and Leigh Johnson & Tom Wright and showcase the talents of students who have participated in the Art Mentoring program over Venice Arts' long history. For tickets and sponsorship information, visit [www.venicearts.org](http://www.venicearts.org).