SPENCER MUSEUM OF ART

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

For immediate release

Daguerreotype to Digital exhibition surveys history of photography

Jan. 22—July 22, 2005

North Balcony Gallery

MEDIA CONTACT

John Pultz, Curator of Photography, 785.864.1487, pultz@ku.edu
Brett Knappe, curatorial intern, 785.864.0128, photo@ku.edu
Bill Woodard, Director of Communications, 785.864.0142, drawbeau.edu

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Lawrence, KS—On view in the North Balcony Gallery from Jan. 22 through July 22, *Daguerreotype to Digital: Photographs from the Collection* surveys the history of photography from the 1840s to the present, featuring more than 50 highlights from the Spencer's collection of 4,000 photographs. The exhibition is organized by John Pultz, curator of photography, assisted by Brett Knappe, the 2004-05 graduate intern in photography, who is pursuing a Ph.D. in art history at KU with a specialization in the history of photography.

First State Bank and Trust provides local corporate sponsorship for Daguerreotype to Digital.

The exhibition is a resource for the spring semester history of photography survey class taught by Pultz, who is also associate professor of art history at KU, and allows students to see directly, and not through reproduction, representative samples of important photographs from throughout the medium's history. During the semester, students will come in small groups to the gallery several times with Pultz to examine closely and discuss the original works of art and afterwards write short papers on the visits. An additional section of *Daguerreotype to Digital* will open March

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19 in the Study Gallery. It will feature large-format photographs from the past 25 years, including one using digital technology.

Daguerreotype to Digital includes many photographs that the Spencer has acquired since Pultz came to KU in 1993, as well as long-time favorites of the collection. Included are examples of early photographic techniques from the 1840s and 1850s, including daguerreotype, tintype, and ambrotype portraits, as well as a calotype print of a French church from around 1855, made from a paper negative. Other nineteenth-century photographs, by Mathew Brady, Eadweard Muybridge, and Carleton Watkins, document the American Civil War and the expansion into the American West that followed. Highlights from the twentieth-century include works by Man Ray, August Sander, Charles Sheeler, Edward Steichen, Walker Evans, Henri Cartier-Bresson, Edward Weston, Margaret Bourke-White, and Diane Arbus.

"This exhibition demonstrates the incredible quality and breadth of the Spencer's photography collection," Pultz says. "It also helps us to identify the gaps in the collection and see where we should be adding to it."

Related Programming

1.29

Children's Art Appreciation class: "Stories in Pictures" / 10:30 AM & 1:30 PM

2.10

Tour du Jour: Brett Knappe, curatorial intern, photography / 12:15 PM / North Balcony Gallery

-30-

Spencer Museum of Art The University of Kansas 1301 Mississippi St Lawrence 66045-7500

785.864.4710

Also find the Spencer...

On the Web: www.spencerart.ku.eduE-mail: spencerart@ku.edu

Gallery hours

Tues., Wed., Fri., & Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Thurs. 10a.m.-9 p.m.

Sun. Noon-5 p.m.

Closed Monday

- Free parking in Lot 91 after 5 p.m. on weekdays and all day weekends, excepting home football games.
- Parking garage adjacent to Kansas Union is \$1 per hour weekdays, free on Saturdays and Sundays (but unavailable on home football games).