



B Burrelles

237,4336

.y..d.

17

XX...LD

Exhibit to focus on iconic Marilyn Monroe

DAYTON - Dayton Art Institute will present the exhibition "Marilyn Monroe: Life as a Legend" and a one-woman play on the life of the legendary actress April 28 to June 24.

"Marilyn Monroe: Life as a Legend" uses a wide range of artists and media to explore the public and private life of one of the world's most recognizable icons. Through the art of Andy Warhol, Allen Jones, Peter Blake, Richard Avedon, Bert Stern, Henri Cartier-Bresson and others, this exhibition of nearly 250 photographs, prints, paintings, videos and sculpture captures Marilyn's rise to stardom. Nearly 80 artists depict the late movie star in styles ranging from fashion photography to pop art.

"To this day, the public continues to have a fascination with Marilyn Monroe," said J. Bradford Tillson, interim director of the Dayton Art Institute. "This exhibition uses the art of photography, painting and sculpture to celebrate her legendary life. The diversity of the artists represented allows the visitor to relive all aspects of Marilyn's life, from the young ingenue to one of the most popular film stars of the 1950s."

"Marilyn Monroe: Life as a Legend" includes Tom Kelley's famous Red Velvet Pose for Playboy magazine, Douglas Kirkland's sensuous bed sheet shots, "One Night with Marilyn," and Bert Stern's Here's to You," a photograph of Marilyn



Photo courtesy Dayton Art Museum

This photograph of Marilyn Monroe, titled "Here's to You," is by Bert Stern and is among the last photographs taken of Monroe before her death in 1962. The group is titled "The Last Sitting."

with champagne glass in hand, celebrating her entrée back into Hollywood.

Marilyn's most recognizable film moments are depicted, such as the famous subway grate scene with Tom Ewell in "The Seven Year Itch," as photographed by Sam Shaw. Ernst Haas's pensive behind-the-

scene shots of Marilyn in "The Misfits" are also displayed.

Numerous contemporary artists, such as Andy Warhol and Mel Ramos, offer their own Marilyn interpretations.

"This exhibition is a must see for any fan of Marilyn Monroe," commented Tillson. "Fans who lived during Marilyn's life-

time will recall all of their favorite memories of her. Those who developed a fascination with her years after her death will gain new insights into Marilyn as both a person and a movie screen legend."

"Marilyn Monroe: Life as a Legend" was organized by Artoma in Hamburg, Germany, and circulated by International Arts & Artists in Washington, D.C. The exhibition in Dayton is sponsored by Steve R. Rauch, Inc.

In conjunction with the special exhibition, the Dayton Art Institute will present the one-woman play, "Marilyn: Forever Blonde."

Shortly before her untimely death, Monroe posed for what would be her last photo shoot. "Marilyn: Forever Blonde" recreates Marilyn's last chance to tell her own story in her own words. Conceived by award-winning producer and writer Greg Thompson, the script has been painstakingly researched from hundreds of quotes by Marilyn herself.

Performances of "Marilyn: Forever Blonde" will be offered on Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons at 2 and Friday evenings at 8.

Tickets for "Marilyn Monroe: Life as a Legend" and "Marilyn: Forever Blonde" can be purchased by contacting the Dayton Art Institute at (937) 223-4ART or by visiting the museum Web site, www.daytonartinstitute.org.