



Dare to Make History

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**THE CALIFORNIA MUSEUM PRESENTS HARRY BRANT CHANDLER:  
*THE DREAMERS: INSPIRATIONAL STORIES OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA*  
October 28, 2008 to April 26, 2009**

**A Look at Contemporary Art and California Dreams**

(Sacramento, CA) - The California Museum opens its newest exhibit, *The Dreamers: Inspirational Stories of Southern California*, to the public on Tuesday, October 28th. The exhibit presents evocative portraits of Southern Californians, both historic and contemporary, created by photographer Harry Brant Chandler, of the Los Angeles Times founding family. Chandler, a former media executive-turned-photographic artist, brings to life the pursuit of California Dreams through unique artwork and inspiring messages.

Chandler's portraits are based on actual photos of notable Southern Californians, captured by the artist or drawn from historic archives, and then manipulated with computer design technology to evoke a dreamlike feeling. Chandler changes the composition, removes non-essential visual details, adds or enhances colors, replaces the skies and/or the background, and, most importantly, places his subjects in the context of their dreams.

The final results are images rich with color, imagination and significant historical meaning that only Chandler could have dreamt.

From immigrants to billionaires, some of the Southern Californians on display are: author Ray Bradbury, President Ronald Reagan, pilot Amelia Earhart, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, water engineer William Mulholland, politician Tom Bradley, author Helen Hunt Jackson, film director Cecil B. DeMille, graffiti artist Gajin Fujita and evangelist Aimee Semple McPherson.

"The accomplished people that Chandler portrays signify that anything is possible in California," said The California Museum Deputy Director and Curator, Amanda Meeker. "Chandler's work and his pieces are a testament to the power of dreams. As with the California Hall of Fame (and there is some overlap with the inductees), these are people who have dared to make their own mark on history, whether in a local or international sphere."

The California Museum will hold a special reception for Museum members and major donors, the evening of the exhibit opening, on Tuesday, October 28th, at 6pm. The artist, Harry Brant Chandler, will be in attendance and give remarks to guests. For information on attending the event, contact Carrie Harrell at (916) 653-1752.

## **About the Artist**

For more than twenty-five years, Harry Brant Chandler was a successful Los Angeles-based media executive at companies including 20th Century Fox, Showtime, the Los Angeles Times and Overture Services (now Yahoo Search). He now devotes much of his attentions to his photography.

His training in photography began at prep school at Phillips Andover Academy and then continued at Stanford University, where he studied under art historian Albert Elson, MOMA's chief curator of painting and sculpture Kirk Varnadoe, and noted Bay Area photographer, Leo Holub.

As a fifth-generation Southern Californian, Mr. Chandler is a descendant of prominent Angeleno families whose dreams helped shaped the city; from the founding and running the Los Angeles Times to numerous civic, business and real estate endeavors.

His own personal relationship with many of the Dreamers portrayed in the exhibit brings a veracity and insight into the biographies that he has written about them, and his inventive photos have created compelling portraits of these inspirational Southern California individuals.

## **About The California Museum**

*The California Museum – home of the California Hall of Fame – engages, educates and enlightens people about California’s rich history and its unique contribution to the world through ideas, innovation, art and culture. Through captivating, interactive and innovative experiences, the Museum seeks to inspire men, women and children to dream the California dream and dare to make their mark on history. Open Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. Noon-5 p.m.; Adults \$7.50, Students/Seniors (with valid I.D.) \$6, Children 6-13 \$5.00; Free for Children 5 and Younger. Parking is free on the weekends. [www.CaliforniaMuseum.org](http://www.CaliforniaMuseum.org).*

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