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**TAKING THE VERY PRIVATE - PUBLIC
VAGINA FESTIVAL: A VISUAL AND PERFORMANCE ART EXPERIENCE**

New York, NY, Jan. 24, 2007 – TAKING THE VERY PRIVATE – PUBLIC: Vagina Festival, a visual and performance art experience, proudly and provocatively presents women’s most personal stories and most private parts. It’s a weekend event where a group of artists celebrate the intersecting commonalities in women’s lives. And from that space of community, invite you to consider what so many women endure daily—abuse, rape, sexual slavery and genital mutilation—and, to envision a world of peace and respect.

Vagina Festival is an opportunity to see, hear and talk about what too-rarely gets talked about. Vagina Festival is a space for conversation.

The festival takes place at Agni Gallery on the lower east side of Manhattan and is organized by Alexandra Jacoby, who, for the last six years, has been photographing a book of vagina portraits. The v-portraits are documentary photographs for women—“so we can see ourselves for ourselves”. The v-portraits [66 so far] will be part of Vagina Festival’s visual art exhibition.

“We’re going to line the gallery walls with art, and throughout the festival present performance art, music, poetry and speakers, as well as two performances of “The Vagina Monologues”. It will be a fun, moving, thought-provoking experience!”

While Vagina Festival is for and about women, it warmly welcomes men. The Vagina Festival, artist, performer, and speaker profiles, as well as ticket and sponsor information, are available at <http://www.vaginafestival.com>

Vagina Festival, a part of V-Day’s Worldwide Campaign, takes place the weekend of Feb. 16-18, 2007 at Agni Gallery, 170 East 2nd Street, Manhattan. It’s a volunteer-run event and is a sponsored project of Fractured Atlas, a non profit arts services organization. Proceeds will be donated to V-Day to support its efforts to end violence against women worldwide.

ABOUT ALEXANDRA JACOBY – Alexandra Jacoby is an artist-activist. Since Sept. 2000, her primary focus has been vagina vérité™ – an unabashed exploration of the plain, ordinary, mysterious matter of vaginas. For more on vagina vérité™, please go to <http://www.vaginaverite.com>

ABOUT AGNI GALLERY - Agni Gallery, established by artist, Agni Zotis in 2004, is a space for the organic expression of intellectual process, of unrestricted questioning and conversation, and the intimacy of raw emotion. It maintains a standard of high quality work that reflects the environment and the needs of the community. For more on Agni Gallery, please go to <http://www.agnizotis.com>

ABOUT V-DAY - V-Day is a global movement that supports anti-violence organizations throughout the world, helping them to continue and expand their work, while drawing public attention to the larger fight to stop worldwide violence (including rape, battery, incest, female genital mutilation (FGM), sexual slavery) against women and girls. To date, the V-Day movement has raised over \$40 million and educated millions about the issues of violence against women and girls. V-Day was established by Eve Ensler, author of “The Vagina Monologues”. For more on V-Day, please go to <http://www.vday.org>

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