

## News Release from Milton Keynes Gallery

8 Sep – 23 Sep 2001

### **Andy Warhol 'Cars' exhibition opens**

**Sponsored by Mercedes-Benz**

Admission free

The **Andy Warhol 'Cars'** exhibition, sponsored by Mercedes-Benz, opens at Milton Keynes Gallery tomorrow on Saturday 8 September. The 28 works, comprising 17 silk-screens and 11 drawings of Mercedes-Benz cars date from 1986 and 1987. The exhibition is on loan for two weeks from the DaimlerChrysler Collection in Germany and this is the first time they have been shown in the UK.

*Cars* was Warhol's last cycle of paintings, remaining incomplete at the time of his death in 1987. Commissioned by Mercedes-Benz in the mid-1980s to celebrate their centenary, the series was to have included 20 different Mercedes models, chosen to document the history of the car. Of the 80 pictures planned, only 36 paintings and 13 drawings featuring 8 different models were finished, and 28 of these will be shown at MK G. The subjects include the earliest three-wheeler Benz of 1886, a Mercedes Touring Car from the 1920s, a classic 1937 racing car, coupes and Formula 1 cars from the 1950s, and finally an experimental Mercedes-Benz from 1970. The resulting canvases of stylishly contoured cars in glowing colours are both sensual and seductive.

Not to be missed is the **DaimlerChrysler Family Day** on Saturday 15 September which offers fun, free, creative activities linked to the *Cars* exhibition throughout the day (10.00-17.00). This includes a variety of activities and events, and a wooden replica of a Mercedes racing car commissioned from sculptor Justin Neal, which children can help decorate, plus a competition to design the Mercedes car of the future.

MK G has published **Andy Warhol: An Introduction** – a free guide which will be given to all visiting students and mailed to local secondary schools. The (also available for sale from the Gallery Shop, price £2.50).

**Free guided tours** take place on Wednesdays at 13.15 and Sundays at 14.30 and accompanied children aged 3-12 can try free art activities at the **Saturday Art Trolley** between 11.00 and 13.00.

**Gallery Open:** Tues-Sat 10.00-17.00 Sun 12.00-17.00 Closed Mondays

**Address:** 900 Midsummer Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes, MK9 3QA.

**Tel:** 01908 676 900. Visit [www.mkweb.co.uk/mkg](http://www.mkweb.co.uk/mkg) for further information.

## Notes for Editors

A major retrospective exhibition of Warhol's work opens in Berlin at the end of this month and tours to Tate Modern, London, early next year (7 Feb – 1 April 2000).

**DaimlerChrysler** is the parent company of the Mercedes-Benz brand, which has its UK headquarters in central Milton Keynes, within a couple of miles of MK G. The exhibition coincides with the company's centenary celebrations this year. The DaimlerChrysler collection in Germany comprises more than 650 mainly contemporary works.

**Mercedes-Benz and Milton Keynes Gallery** have received an investment from the Arts & Business New Partners programme, which rewards vigour and innovation in relationships between business and the arts in the UK. New Partners helps business to develop relationships with the arts in new directions, to bring new benefits and meet different business objectives.

**Arts & Business'** vision is to help build communities by developing creative partnerships between business and the arts. For more information on New Partners or any other Arts & Business initiatives, please contact Crystal Johnson, Arts & Business South on 023 8061 9170 or e-mail [Crystal.Johnson@AandB.org.uk](mailto:Crystal.Johnson@AandB.org.uk).

### Press contacts

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