FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SHELDON ART GALLERIES FEATURES PHOTOGRAPHS BY MARIO ALGAZE

ST. LOUIS, MO - The Sheldon Art Galleries presents Mario Algaze: A Respect for Light, February 6 – May 9, 2015 in the Gallery of Photography. An opening reception is scheduled for Friday, February 6 from 5 – 7 p.m. Galleries are open until 9 p.m. for First Fridays in Grand Center. The Sheldon Art Galleries are open Tuesdays, Noon – 8 p.m.; Wednesdays - Fridays, Noon – 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and one hour prior to Sheldon performances and during intermission. Admission is free. For more information on exhibitions, visit the galleries’ website at TheSheldon.org.

Mario Algaze’s exquisite black and white photographs, taken in Central and South America between 1974 and 2011, are about light and the poetic narrative of life. His works, made in the classic tradition of black and white documentary photography, come out of a long Latin-American tradition with roots in the works of Martín Chambi and Manuel Alvarez Bravo. Algaze’s photographs are as much about the artist’s own search for the self as they are about the places and people that he photographs. They reveal inner states of mind and simultaneously tell stories about endurance, ancient traditions and their intersection with contemporary life. Born in Cuba in 1947, Algaze relocated with his family to Miami in 1960 just after the Cuban Revolution. His works are in many public, private and corporate collections including the Cleveland Museum of Art, Miami Art Museum, Milwaukee Art Museum and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and his works have been shown in one-person and group exhibitions in London, Edinburgh, New York, San Diego, Miami and Buffalo.
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The not-for-profit Sheldon Art Galleries exhibits works by local, national and international artists in all media. Over 6,000 square feet of the galleries’ spaces on the 2nd floor are permanently devoted to rotating exhibits of photography, architecture, jazz art and history and children’s art. A sculpture garden, seen from both the atrium lobby and the connecting glass bridge, features periodic rotations and installations, and the Nancy Spirtas Kranzberg Gallery on the lower level features art of all media. The Sheldon actively supports the work of St. Louis artists in all mediums and features a dedicated gallery with museum-quality exhibits by St. Louis artists, past and present.

Financial Assistance for this project has been provided by the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency. Support is provided by the Regional Arts Commission and the Arts and Education Council.

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The exhibition is made possible in part by Capes Sokol Goodman and Sarachan PC

Image caption: Mario Algaze, Sendero iluminado, Cuzco, Perú, 2002, selenium-toned gelatin silver print, 16 x 20 inches, courtesy of the artist and Throckmorton Fine Art, New York.