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GEORGE
EASTMAN
MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MAJOR RETROSPECTIVE OF WORK BY BEA NETTLES
MOUNTED BY SHELDON ART GALLERIES AND THE GEORGE EASTMAN MUSEUM**

ST. LOUIS, MO – The Sheldon Art Galleries in St. Louis, MO and the George Eastman Museum in Rochester, NY are pleased to present *Bea Nettles: Harvest of Memory*, opening October 4, 2019 at the Sheldon Art Galleries. Co-organized by the two museums, the exhibit and companion 200-page catalogue is the first retrospective analysis of the groundbreaking artist's practice and is drawn from Nettles's personal collection; and the collections at the George Eastman Museum, Rochester, NY; the Krannert Art Museum, Champaign, IL; and the Illinois State Museum, Springfield, IL.

The exhibit will be on view at the Sheldon Art Galleries through December 28, 2019, then travel to the George Eastman Museum where it will be on view from January 31 through June 14, 2020, and then to the Krannert Art Museum in Champaign, Illinois, August 27-November 28, 2020. The exhibit is co-curated by Jamie M. Allen, the Stephen B. and Janice G. Ashley Associate Curator, Department of Photography at the George Eastman Museum; and Olivia Lahs-Gonzales, former Director of the Sheldon Art Galleries.

A free public opening will be held October 4 from 5 – 7 p.m. at the Sheldon Art Galleries. The galleries will be open until 9 p.m. for Frist Fridays in Grand Center. The 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.

Bea Nettles: Harvest of Memory presents the span of Nettles work across half a century. Recognized for her innovations in mixed-media photography, Nettles used alternative photographic processes that produced textured works with subjects including self-portraits; investigations of the body and its relationship to nature and landscape; and the experience of mothering, loss and aging. A tremendously productive artist, Nettles's work has received critical acclaim, and been acquired into the permanent collections of museums coast to coast. Now, for the first time in her fifty-year career, *Bea Nettles: Harvest of Memory* offers a large-scale retrospective, tracing the journey of an artist who profoundly illuminates our inner worlds.

The exhibition career of Bea Nettles began in 1970 when her work was shown in "Photography Into Sculpture" at the Museum of Modern Art. Her work has been featured in exhibitions throughout the world and is found in texts including *Art Since 1940: Strategies of Being* (Abrams), *History of Women in Photography* (Abbeville Press), *World History of Photography* (Abbeville Press) and *Photographers Encyclopaedia International* (M Auer, Switzerland).

MORE...

Sheldon Art Galleries/Bea Nettles: Harvest of Memory cont'd.
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Nettles' images can be found in numerous collections including the Museums of Modern Art in New York City and San Francisco, Philadelphia Museum of Art, National Gallery of Canada, Phillips Collection in Washington D.C., the George Eastman Museum, and Center for Creative Photography in Tucson, Arizona. Her artists' books are included in special collections libraries at numerous museums and universities. She has received two National Endowment for the Arts Photography Fellowships and grants from the New York and Illinois State Arts Councils.

Nettles has taught photography and visual books since 1970. Her classic alternative processes textbook, *Breaking the Rules: A Photo Media Cookbook*, influenced two generations of readers. She has delivered lectures and workshops internationally and is recognized for her innovations in mixed media photography.

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, music 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.

Founded in 1947, the George Eastman Museum is the world's oldest photography museum and one of the largest film archives in the United States, located on the historic Rochester estate of entrepreneur and philanthropist George Eastman, the pioneer of popular photography. Its holdings comprise more than 400,000 photographs, 28,000 motion picture films, the world's preeminent collection of photographic and cinematographic technology, one of the leading libraries of books related to photography and cinema, and extensive holdings of documents and other objects related to George Eastman. As a research and teaching institution, the Eastman Museum has an active publishing program and, through its two joint master's degree programs with the University of Rochester, makes critical contributions to the fields of film preservation and of photographic preservation and collection management. For more information, visit eastman.org.

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Promotional images for ***Bea Nettles: Harvest of Memory*** are available for download at the following URL:
<https://eastmanmuseum.box.com/v/beanettles-harvestofmemory>.

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