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Anticipation: Art and Fashion at Samson Projects

A collaboration of runway maternity fashions and video art debut

(Boston, MA – September 26, 2004) ---- In honor of **Boston Fashion Week, Samson Projects**, Boston's newest contemporary art gallery, and Newbury Street's **9 Months**, announce a new arrival: a provocative one night exhibit and fashion show on Thursday, October 21.

The latest belly-baring, runway maternity looks will be modeled by local celebrities while a video installation by Brooklyn-based artist, Amy Jenkins, is projected on a 60 inch plasma screen. Jenkins' 20-minute video, "The Audrey Samsara," shows her nursing her 18 month-old daughter in a setting that brings to mind an Old Master's painting. This icon of maternal care, echoing centuries of paintings, was dropped from the Salvatore Ferragamo Gallery in New York last May.

Katie Tagliavia, owner of Newbury Street's 9 Months, read of the controversy in WWD when "The Audrey Samsara" was censored. She decided to bring the artist and the video, which has never had a public screening, to Boston. She found the perfect venue in Samson Projects.

Tagliavia felt that Jenkins' video captured the truth of the nursing experience. "Nursing a baby and sustaining that life postpartum, is a very empowering emotion. It is a natural extension of pregnancy, which through new styles in maternity fashion, already embodies a greater sense of confidence among women, looks that highlight rather than hide a pregnant woman's body."

Samson Projects' director, Camilo Alvarez was already familiar with Jenkins work. Her installations, videos and photography have been exhibited and published internationally and she has been an artist in residence at the MacDowell Colony in Peterborough, NH.

"It's surprising to hear that Jenkins' work was pulled from the New York show," stated Alvarez. "Can it be that Bostonians are more open to new ideas? I never would have imagined that my first fashion collaboration in Boston would be with maternity fashionistas, but Katie (Tagliavia) was ready to do an edgy event and so were we! This has been a perfect marriage."

The fashion show and gallery reception will take place at
Samson Projects, suite 63
450 Harrison Avenue in the South End
Thursday, October 21 - - 6:30 PM

Photographs from "The Audrey Samsara" series will be on view at **9 months** from Oct. 15 – Nov. 15.

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