

FAHEY / KLEIN
GALLERY

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Contact: contact@faheykleingallery.com

Herb Ritts | Allies & Icons
In Celebration of *STORIES: The AIDS Monument* in West Hollywood

One Gallery | 626 N Robertson Blvd, West Hollywood, CA 90069

November 13 through December 21, 2025

Exhibition Reception at ONE Gallery: Thursday, November 13th

ONE Gallery

Opening reception, Thursday, November 13th at 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

On view through Sunday, December 21, 2025

626 N Robertson Blvd, West Hollywood, CA 90069

Hours: Thursday - Sunday, **1 p.m. to 7 p.m.**

FREE

STORIES | The AIDS Monument

Opening Ceremony, Sunday, November 16th at 4:00 p.m.

West Hollywood Park

625 N San Vicente Blvd, West Hollywood, CA 90069

Hours: Monday - Sunday, **6 a.m. to midnight.**

FREE

<https://aidsmonument.org/events/grand-opening-of-stories-the-aids-monument/>

In conjunction with the long-awaited unveiling of ***STORIES: The AIDS Monument*** in West Hollywood, the **Herb Ritts Foundation**, in partnership with **Fahey/Klein Gallery**, and **ONE Gallery**, is proud to present ***Herb Ritts: Allies & Icons*** – an intimate exhibition of Herb Ritts' photographs that honor the activists, artists, and cultural leaders who helped transform the global fight against AIDS.

Herb Ritts (1952–2002) is one of the most celebrated photographers of the late 20th century and early 21st century. His approach to the medium was always fresh and bold, while simultaneously capturing the strength and vulnerability of his subjects. With his clean modernist style, bold contrasts, and sculptural forms, Ritts transformed his subjects into enduring icons. In the spirit of the AIDS Monument itself, the photographs on view *remember, celebrate, and educate* with portraits of those that confronted one of history's greatest crises.

148 NORTH LA BREA AVENUE LOS ANGELES CA 90036

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This exhibition, *Herb Ritts: Allies & Icons*, brings together striking black & white portraits of the cultural figures who stood at the forefront of AIDS activism — including Elizabeth Taylor, Elton John, Magic Johnson, Madonna, Barbra Streisand, Sharon Stone, Tina Turner, Keith Haring, and many others. Each subject used their voice, fame, and influence to fight stigma, support research, and bring compassion to a world gripped by fear.

“Herb photographed the icons of his time. The notorious, the edgy, the culturally significant, and in doing so, gave us a visual record of an era marked by both beauty and profound loss. He sought not just to portray but to reveal, coaxing from his subjects a vulnerability that could disarm and a power that could inspire.”

David Fahey, founder of Fahey/Klein Gallery and co-curator of *Herb Ritts: Allies & Icons*.

The exhibition coincides with the dedication of *STORIES: The AIDS Monument*, a collaboration between the City of West Hollywood and the Foundation for the AIDS Monument (FAM). The Monument, designed by artist Daniel Tobin, honors the lives lost, the survivors, and the communities and caregivers who fought tirelessly for dignity, treatment, and remembrance.

Ritts himself lived with AIDS and was a steadfast supporter of amfAR, The Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation, Project Angel Food, APLA, and was a charter member for the Elton John AIDS Foundation. He used his platform to shift the narrative from silence to compassion, contributing books such as *Duo* and *Notorious* to raise significant funds for AIDS research and awareness.

The exhibition is presented in partnership with the Herb Ritts Foundation and coincides with the public dedication of *STORIES: The AIDS Monument* on November 16, 2025, at West Hollywood Park, followed by a community celebration at The Abbey.

For more information about **STORIES | The AIDS Monument**, please visit:

<https://aidsmonument.org/>

Press Photographs & Press Materials are available on request.

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