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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Tom Hunter Living in Hell and Other Stories** February 23 – March 25, 2006 Reception for the artist: Thursday February 23, 6-8 pm

The first photographer to be given a solo exhibition at The National Gallery, London, British artist Tom Hunter here presents a series of carefully staged photographic tableaux reenacting odd incidents or violent crimes reported in his local paper, the *Hackney Gazette*. With this body of work, Hunter maintains his practice of creating photographs, which comment on the contemporary social realities of his immediate community viewed through an art historical lens. Hunter is known for his compositions and lighting based on historical paintings. Whereas his earlier series *Persons Unknown* and *Life and Death in Hackney* drew on Vermeer and the Pre-Raphaelites respectively, *Living in Hell and Other Stories* references the paintings of Gauguin, the Le Nain Brothers, Constable and Ingres.

Hunter's solo exhibition, *Living in Hell and Other Stories*, accompanied by an eightypage catalog, is currently on view at The National Gallery, London through March 12, 2006. The Mint Museum, Charlotte, N.C., will present a solo exhibition in July 2006 as part of their Vantage Point series. Born in England in 1965, Hunter received his MFA from the Royal College of Art. In 1998, he won the John Kobal Award from the National Portrait Gallery. Hunter's work has been exhibited at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, the Irish Museum of Modern Art, the Frans Hals Museum, the Royal Academy, London and the Museum Folkwang, Essen. Hunter's work has been acquired by major collections including the Hirshhorn Museum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, The Saatchi Collection and the Victoria and Albert Museum.

**Yancey Richardson Gallery**, 535 West 22nd Street, NYC 10011 tel. 646.230.9610-For visuals please contact Tracey Norman– tnorman@yanceyrichardson.com