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*For Immediate Release*

**JULIKA RUDELIUS**  
**FOREVER**  
**MAY 23 – JULY 14 2007**

Opening reception Tuesday May 22, 6-8:00 PM

Julika Rudelius' solo exhibition at the Swiss Institute will be the first U.S. presentation of her new two-channel video installation *FOREVER*, which she filmed in the Hamptons, the summer retreat of New York's high society, in 2006.

Based in New York and Amsterdam, Rudelius uses video to stage intimate, often disquieting monologues, interviews and enactments, in which her subjects hold forth on their most private - and often embarrassing - thoughts and opinions. Whether condemning the poor for their neediness, discussing the merits of luxury-brand clothing or relating trumped-up tales of sexual exploits, her characters perform according to the scripts of their own vulnerability.

In *FOREVER*, Rudelius casts five American women, selected for their age and particular physical beauty, who pose for the camera around swimming pools at private homes in the Hamptons. Lounging on poolside chairs and pacing around manicured backyards, the women are interviewed - although Rudelius' questions are withheld - on topics ranging from beauty and privilege to plastic surgery and aging. These introspective soliloquies, suffused with unstated fears and anxieties, are punctuated by the women taking self-portraits with a polaroid camera. Tracing a path between pathos and critical realism, *FOREVER* succeeds as portraiture and as an image of the genre itself.

For more information, please contact Daniel Marcus at [daniel@swissinstitute.net](mailto:daniel@swissinstitute.net).