

THE GRACE KELLY YEARS
Princess of Monaco

A special exhibition at the Grimaldi Forum Monaco

FACTS AT-A-GLANCE

- NAME OF EXHIBITION:** The Grace Kelly Years
Princess of Monaco
(*Les Années Grace Kelly, Princesse de Monaco*)
- LENGTH OF EXHIBIT:** July 12 – September 23, 2007
- LOCATION:** Espace Ravel
Grimaldi Forum Monaco
10 avenue Princess Grace
Principality of Monaco
www.GrimaldiForum.com
- OVERVIEW:** This unprecedented exhibition traces the public and private life of Monaco's beloved Princess Grace. Imaginatively executed in a series of 15 "rooms", the exhibit takes visitors on Her personal journey from Her Philadelphia childhood to Hollywood; the meeting and marriage to Prince Rainier and Her role as a mother, philanthropist and iconic face of Monaco. Drawing on Her personal belongings (including clothing and accessories, film memorabilia, correspondence and photographs) the story of Grace Kelly – Hollywood star and Princess of Monaco – comes to life in rich detail. This exhibit marks the 25th anniversary of Her passing.
- CURATOR:** Frédéric Mitterrand – Award-winning film and documentary producer and writer, Mitterrand received a degree in history and geography at the Nanterre faculty of Paris University and completed post-graduate studies at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques. Active in front and behind the camera, his career spans more than 30 years. He first appeared on screen at the age of 12, under the name Frédéric Robert, in *Fortunat* with Michèle Morgan and Bourvil. From 1971 to 1986 he ran the Olympic and Entrepôt chain of 14 art house cinemas. He has made numerous documentary series about great 20th-century figures as well as films for cinema. His most recent achievements include hosting interview programs on Match TV and Pink TV, serving as director of programs for the TV5 international channel, serving as general curator for France's Tunisia Season, Morocco Year and Czech Year and as president of the Centre National de Cinématographie's Southern Collections Committee.

EXHIBITION DESIGN:

Nathalie Crinière – Crinière received degrees in interior architecture at the Ecole Boule and in industrial design at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs, Paris and also studied at Georgia Tech Institute of Technology in Atlanta. Following a year in Barcelona, working in the practice of interior architect Pepe Cortes, she returned to Paris, setting up Agence NC Nathalie Crinière, a multidisciplinary firm focusing on exhibition design and interior architecture. Agence NC now works for leading culture institutions while also developing a portfolio of private clients.

EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- The Hollywood Room with its giant gold Oscar, symbolizing Grace Kelly's Academy Award for Best Actress in "The Country Girl".
- The First Meeting Room, complete with footage of the first meeting with Prince Rainier.
- The Wedding Room, featuring Her wedding gown and the Rolls Royce used on Their wedding day.
- The Glamour Room, capturing Her role as fashion icon, with a special display area devoted to the Kelly bag by Hermès.
- The Family & Friends rooms provide a rare insight into Her private world and contain private photographs and correspondence from her many friends and colleagues.
- The Princess and Official rooms contain fabulous gowns and official regalia: tiara, sash, certificates plus official invitations to society and VIP functions and activities.

ADMISSION:

€10 per person; students under 25 with a student card are €6 and children under 12 are admitted free of charge. Group discounts are available. For tickets, email ticket@grimaldiform.com.

EXHIBITION ROOM-BY-ROOM:

Philadelphia Room features an in-depth look at family and early childhood, as well as an overview of the Roosevelt years and World War II.

New York Room explores Her early career, with cut-out silhouettes and a design replicating the women's hotel where She lived as a fledgling actress.

Hollywood Room immerses visitors into the heart of the movie world. Conceived as a vast film set, the room sparkles with the glamour of old Hollywood. Exhibit and design elements include a giant gold Oscar symbolizing Her 1955 Academy Award for Best Actress in *The*

Country Girl, as well as costumes and career-related correspondence.

Hitchcock Room is a theatrical showcase commemorating the three films She made with Alfred Hitchcock. Recalling the apartment in *Rear Window*, the room's imaginative design allows visitors to feel they've become actors on the set. Telephoto lenses and binoculars show scenes from the film on built-in screens and a collection of costumes is also on display.

First Meeting Room strikes a balance between life in America and the imminent move to Monaco. A film of the auspicious first meeting with Prince Rainier and another of the Prince's visit to America can be viewed from both parts of the exhibit, which is built into sets from *The Swan* and *To Catch a Thief*. Another film features the Atlantic crossing by ocean liner to join the Prince in Monaco.

Wedding Room celebrates The Princess's marriage to Prince Rainier on April 19, 1956. Her wedding gown and the Rolls Royce used that day are focal points of this important exhibit room, which also features a film of the wedding.

Ball Room takes the form of a long passage lined on either side with formal gowns displayed on revolving stands. A long display case in the center, showcasing announcements, invitations and guest lists, captures the festive and convivial atmosphere of Her public life.

Chamber of Love represents The Princess's personal life, with gifts, letters and more private photos of the couple.

Family Room is an intimate and inviting room exploring the life of the Grimaldi family. Against a soundtrack of children laughing, a collection of furnishings, toys and clothing of the Princess's three children is on display, as well as a replica of the room in which Princess Caroline was born. Display cases and wall exhibits feature family photos and correspondence; a central podium with three cases displays documents, medals and drawings related to each child.

Private Garden Room is designed to replicate The Princess's art studio at Roc Agel and features Her

paintings as well as display cases with relevant documents.

Friends Room allows visitors to sit and listen to tapes of The Princess's friends recalling special memories about Her. Opening to the sea, the room is bathed in natural light, creating the impression that visitors are strolling in the Palace gardens. A display case features Her correspondence with friends.

Princess Room is reminiscent of an enormous dressing room which displays wardrobe pieces and accessories.

Glamour Room celebrates The Princess's extraordinary style. A series of small tables, each with a dramatic long light shade hanging above it, features descriptions of the fashion accessories the Princess helped popularize. Appropriately, a large display area is devoted to the Kelly bag by Hermès.

Fans Room displays a wide range of the correspondence and gifts the Princess received throughout Her life.

Official Room sparkles with a display of Her official regalia, including diadem, certificate and belt. This impressive room explores The Princess's official role as Her Serene Highness. Along one wall, a long dining table is set for a banquet, evoking the myriad formal dinners and receptions over which She presided. Visitors are "invited to the Princess's table" where they take seats and become magically engaged in the experience. Another wall features an enormous fresco of magazine covers on which The Princess appeared. A life-size photo of The Princess and film clip close the exhibit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.grimaldiform.com