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"Women Need to See This" – that was the consensus

New York, NY, June 10, 2005 -- What women need to see is the installation of fifty vagina portraits presented by artist, Alexandra Jacoby, at the Society for Menstrual Cycle Research (SMCR) conference, June 2-4, 2005, held in Boulder, CO.

While many women feel that the way their vagina looks is not normal, or not attractive, few have had the opportunity to see other women's vaginas. With her v-portraits, Jacoby intends to rectify that.

She's been working on the project since Sept. 2000, "to provide a collective mirror and spark conversation about sexuality, identity and body-image" she says.

Jacoby began making close-up, documentary-style vagina photographs in response to a conversation with a friend who didn't like the way her vagina looked. Her plan is to publish a book, *vagina vérité*™, "an unabashed exploration of vaginas – so we can see ourselves for ourselves".

Exhibiting at the SMCR conference was an honor and a milestone for Jacoby. She has exhibited *vagina vérité*™ in several NYC art spaces. The most common response from women has been: I knew they were different, but I didn't know they were that different. Next was: I guess I'm not that weird after all. "Having researchers and healthcare providers, specializing in menstrual cycle research, regularly talking with many women, tell me that women need to see this – that was the next level of validation for the project".

Jacoby looks forward to publishing *vagina vérité*™." Meanwhile, she continues to photograph and organize preview exhibitions.

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