



THE RALLS COLLECTION

CONTEMPORARY PAINTING, PHOTOGRAPHY, PRINTS, & SCULPTURE

For Immediate Release

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The Ralls Collection Presents: The Photographs of Frank Hurley

The Ralls Collection is pleased to announce an exhibition of Frank Hurley's photography from the Sir Ernest Shackleton's expedition to Antarctica from 1914 to 1917. The exhibition will run October 3, 2012 to November 27, 2012. A private reception will be held on Wednesday, October 3, 2012 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at the gallery.

James Francis (Frank) Hurley was born on October 15, 1885 in Sydney, New South Wales. He was introduced to photography through a position in the Telegraph Department learning electrical instrument work. While working there he became enthralled with the chemical process of film development. His new profession as a photographer expanded when he began a partnership in the postcard business. A recession in his business led him to his first Antarctic exploration with Douglas Mawson aboard the *Nimrod*, where he displayed his skill for extreme photographic images. His gained notoriety from his previous Antarctic expedition, allowed him to gain access onto the expedition with Sir Ernest Shackleton aboard the *Endurance*.

The expedition departed on October 26, 1914 from Buenos Aires. Sir Ernest Shackleton led the ship, *Endurance*, towards an exploration of the South Pole. The ship became wedged between ice floes within the Weddell Sea and forced its inhabitants to make camp upon the ice floe. Aboard the ship Hurley created a darkroom within the ship's refrigerator. When the ship was finally crushed by the ice floes surrounding it in October 1915 he was able to film the event. Against Shackleton's orders to not board the ship, he saved a camera, undeveloped film, glass negatives, and a few other items but left behind about 400 glass plates.

The Ralls Collection was established in 1988 as a private art dealership, and expanded in 1991 with the opening of a gallery bearing the same name. The gallery specializes in contemporary painting, photography, prints, and sculpture. Located at 1516 31st Street, NW in Georgetown, The Ralls Collection is open Tuesday through Saturday 11:00am to 4:00pm and by appointment.

Attention Editors: To receive more information, please call (202)342-1298. There will be a private reception on Wednesday, October 3, 2012 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Visuals available upon request.