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**ARTIST'S PORTRAIT OF A MOTHER AFFLICTED WITH ALZHEIMER'S --An individual tragedy becomes a larger economic and social tragedy**

Minneapolis, MN, October 1, 2008 –Over the last five years, mixed media artist Marilyn Steven's has captured the stages of her mother's memory loss due to Alzheimer's disease. This elegant and thought provoking body of work draws on keeping family connections alive in "[I'll Catch the Words as They Fall](#)." Letting go of things that don't matter in "[I Know You by Heart](#)" and honoring her mother's life, memories and values through a poetic tribute in "[I'm Still Here](#)".

Although a personal story, Steven's goal is to engage artists, galleries and museums in the bigger story, a visual voice for the community. As presented on the PBS special "The Forgetting", there are 5 million people with Alzheimer's today. It used to be just an individual tragedy but now that it is happening to so many it's become a social and economic tragedy. David Shenk's book, "The Forgetting, A Portrait of an Epidemic" states "We're in the middle of an epidemic. We absolutely have to stop this disease." Steven's hopes art can bring more awareness to this disease through artist's shared stories and experiences.

A resident of Minneapolis, Stevens balances life between art and a career in the home furnishings industry. Her art ambition started later in life after feeling a creative void for authenticity and personal expression. Many years have been spent nurturing her craft to become an accomplished artist with recent exhibitions at the Phipps in Hudson, Wisconsin and the Museum of American Art in St Paul, Minnesota.

Please contact Marilyn Stevens at [mstevens@marilynstevens.com](mailto:mstevens@marilynstevens.com) for more information or visit her press room at [http://www.marilynstevens.com/press\\_kit.html](http://www.marilynstevens.com/press_kit.html) for additional information including high resolution images.

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