

## **CHEESE + CRACKERS, GIN + TONIC, AND NOW...ART + VISION**

Spex (*formerly Coventry Eye Care*) presents ART+VISION with the photography of John Cascarano

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – August 8, 2008 - Evanston, IL - Spex (formerly called Coventry Eye Care), a North Shore destination for luxury eyewear and sunwear, holds ART+VISION, an art event with photographer John Cascarano. The reception takes place on Wednesday, September 24 from 5-8 pm, at 2000 Central St., Evanston, IL 60201; 847-864-0300; spexchicago.com. Cascarano photography will hold a drawing for a free portrait and one 8x10 print (valued at \$370). The show will run through October 29, 2008. Drinks and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

This event also marks the complete re-branding of Coventry Eye Care to Spex. The summer-long transition - primarily a name change - culminates in this six-week micro-exhibition series with photographer John Cascarano. ART+VISION is sponsored by Chicago Magazine and Lafont eyewear.

Through ART+VISION, Spex seeks to provide local talent a diverse and receptive audience within the context of a unique retail environment. Spex has always believed in the importance of encouraging the talent that drives all creative endeavors. These well-attended shows are largely due to local creatives who are given a platform for exposure and community connection. Manager Peggy Kick says, "Evanston is a community that prides itself on supporting the creative spirit of all of its residents, and we are really proud to make our contribution in this way. John Cascarano is well known for his unique portraits and we look forward to complimenting our unique eyewear with his sophisticated work."



John Cascarano's focus is on fine art portraiture and the nuances that make individuals and family members unique and interesting as subject matter. He has carved his own niche in fine art photography: a storyteller creating visual time capsules that uncover the spirit of his subjects. His work is a far cry from the usual portraits we see in high school yearbooks, or the product of shopping mall photo studios. The aesthetics are clean and sophisticated, insightful and always surprising. He is a master at observing his subjects and the human interaction that is necessary to capture a compelling image. For more information on the artist, visit [cascarano.com](http://cascarano.com).

Spex offers artfully crafted eyewear and sun wear to a stylish and discerning public with an eye for beauty and function. Their services range from contact lens fittings and eye exams to eyewear styling and repairs. Product lines are frequently updated, while attentive and knowledgeable customer service rounds out the experience for the savvy shopper. Dr. Sanela Puskar, specializing in primary eye care, is the in-house optometrist and encourages all customers to come in for a comprehensive eye exam. Most major medical and routine vision insurances are accepted.

**Media Contact: Marilyn Frank, Tel: 847-905-1410, x 26; Email: [marilyn.frank@spexchicago.com](mailto:marilyn.frank@spexchicago.com)**

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