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HOW DO MOTHERS' IDENTITIES SHIFT AND CHANGE?
**THE INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF WOMEN PRESENTS [MAMA AND ME](#)
LATEST GALLERY OPENING AS PART OF NEW ONLINE EXHIBITION**

August 1, 2012 – San Francisco, CA - The International Museum of Women (IMOW) today launched "[Mama and Me](#)," the newest Gallery of its online exhibition **MAMA: Motherhood Around the Globe** at mama.imow.org.

Is it possible for a woman to maintain an identity outside of motherhood? Is a woman considered "selfish" or a "bad mom" if she doesn't sacrifice enough of her identity for her children? How can women find a balance among the demands of motherhood?

"Mama and Me" presents global art and stories about the identity shifts and changes women experience as they wrestle with the challenge of balancing motherhood and an independent sense of self.

The [Mama and Me](#) gallery features:

- [An interview with Israeli artist Shira Richter](#), who uses the canvas of her own body to explore the extreme physical changes that occur with pregnancy and motherhood
- [An incredible film by Margaret Lazarus called "Birthmarkings"](#) that features interviews with women talking about how they feel about their post-partum bodies, stretch marks and all
- [An essay by Hafsat Abiola](#), who asserts that one definition of a "good mother" is a woman who spends more time outside the home, improving the greater world for the next generation
- [A series of gorgeous paintings from Catherine Haley Epstein](#) that capture the ambivalence of motherhood and the difficulty of maintaining an independent identity

[MAMA: Motherhood Around the Globe](#) is an online exhibition that showcases original creative works, including art, film, music, photography, essays and video interviews, reflecting the stories, visions and voices of motherhood from more than 60 countries. "Mama and Me" is one of eight topic galleries launched monthly as part of the exhibition.

As part of the exhibition, IMOW is presenting [an online visitor pledge for maternal health rights](#) along with Christy Turlington Burns' organization Every Mother Counts. Visitors can take direct action by signing the pledge at mama.imow.org/pledge.

The International Museum of Women is an innovative online museum that inspires creativity, awareness and action on vital global issues for women. For more information on IMOW, go to www.imow.org

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