Still Photography Agreement

The County of Los Angeles and the Descanso Gardens Foundation, in their continuing effort to serve the community, make available the use of the outdoor facilities at Descanso Gardens for posed still photography. Every courtesy will be extended to those wishing to use the gardens for this purpose so long as such use does not interfere with public use. All pertinent County ordinances or Gardens’ policies, as specified below, must be observed. Please read them carefully and sign below.

Guidelines & Restrictions

- Please do not block pathways or visitor access to any area of the gardens.
- Tripods are allowed, but cannot be placed in plant beds or on benches. Additional photography equipment is prohibited except under commercial contract. This includes: drones, lights, reflectors, costumes, and models.
- Photography is not permitted inside any buildings on the grounds, including the Boddy House and Stuart Haaga Gallery.
- The garden staff will not accept deliveries or be responsible for any personal property or other property belonging to the photographer or his/her clients.
- Props such as balloons, bicycles, confetti, signage, blankets, stools, chairs/tables, and plants invasive to California are not allowed in the gardens proper.
- No clothing changes are allowed for photo shoots.
- All garden activities such as classes, tours, and landscape projects will have exclusive rights to that reserved area. Some areas of the garden may not be available on the day of your reservation due to unforeseen circumstances or garden maintenance. Seasonal restrictions may also apply.

Garden Policies and Etiquette

- We ask that photographers and clients be courteous to garden guests and their enjoyment of the gardens at all times. Activities that may disturb the guest experience, such as music or games, are prohibited.
- No food or beverages are allowed in the gardens. You are welcome to use the picnic area next to the parking lot.
- Smoking is prohibited in the gardens, parking lots, restrooms, and picnic areas. This includes the use of electronic devices such as e-cigarettes.
- Please respect all garden displays by NOT picking flowers, leaves, or seeds, moving planting vessels or signage, posing/walking in flower beds or climbing/hanging from trees.
- Only certified service animals are allowed in the gardens.

Parking

- Free onsite parking is open to all attending the session. All vehicles must load and unload passengers in the designated green curb at the front entrance, but no vehicle may be parked or left unattended in this area. Large buses and/or limos must park in the back of the lot along the black gate for the duration of the session.

Cancellations

- Reservations can be rescheduled up to 48 hours from the date on the permit.
- At its sole discretion, Descanso Gardens reserves the right to cancel any reservation in case of emergency, as determined by the Gardens’ senior manager. In such cases, all fees will be fully refunded.

Indemnification

Photographer agrees to indemnify, defend and save harmless the County of Los Angeles and the Descanso Gardens Foundation, their agents, officers and employees from and against any and all liability, expense, including defense costs and legal fees, and claims for damages of any nature whatsoever including but not limited to, bodily injury, death, personal injury or property damage arising from, or in connection with, the event’s operations, or its services hereunder, including any workers compensation suits, liability or expense arising from, or in connection with, services performed on behalf of lessee or any person pursuant to this contract.

Non-Compliance

Cancellation of the session and denial of future privileges may result if the terms and conditions stated herein are not fully adhered to.

Client Signature: ____________________________ Photographer Signature: ____________________________