

## **For Immediate Release**

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# **A Transitional Interpretation: American Roots Music By Five Photographers**

Exhibition opens with reception on Saturday, September 19, 2015, 4 to 7 pm

The Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library has mounted a new exhibition in its Folklife Gallery called *A Transitional Interpretation: American Roots Music By Five Photographers*, on view September through December 31, 2015. **A reception and gallery talk by the photographers** will take place on Saturday, September 19, 2015, from 4 to 7 pm downstairs off the Library's Glen Street entrance.

With this new, original exhibition, guest curator and photographer Andrzej "Andre" Pilarczyk, along with four of his colleagues (Joseph Deuel, Enid Farber, Bryan Lasky, Lawrence White), invite the public to take a look at an insider's view of the dramatic worlds of live music performance. These much-acclaimed photographers take us on a tour of a world they negotiate almost daily, many over long careers, to "get the shot" that goes on to be seen in reviews, album covers, websites, documentaries and exhibitions.

## **Live! Folklife Concerts**

Folklife Gallery visitors will also be treated with live music on 6 Thursday evenings at 7 pm in September and October, when the Folklife Center will host its popular *Live! Folklife Concert* series. This season's lineup includes Annie & the Hedonist on September 17; Dick Hensold on September 24; The North & South Dakotas on October 8; Twangtown Paramours on October 15; Low Lily on October 22; and Ramblin Jug Stompers with Jill Hughes on October 29.

The Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library's exhibition and associated programs are made possible by funding from the Leo Cox Beach Philanthropic Foundation, The Friends of Crandall Public Library, and the New York State Council on the Arts-Folk Arts Program with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the NYS Legislature.

## **Introduction to the exhibition by guest curator Andrzej Pilarczyk:**

One of the most important cultural gifts America has given the world is its unique musical heritage and its ongoing evolution across the entire musical spectrum. Like the quintessential worldview of the United States as a “melting pot,” its national musical character is filled with the cross-pollination of musical styles and genres brewed to perfection by time and modernity.

Roots-Americana, jazz, rhythm & blues, pop music, Tin Pan Alley, the blues, modern singer-songwriter folk, soul, Cajun, bluegrass, country & western, rock & roll, gospel, zydeco, doo-wop, Tejano, and many other uniquely American forms of music have their roots in the tribal beats and chants of Native Americans; the historical folk, troubadour, and classical idioms of European Americans; the Klezmer and Sephardic musical textures of Jewish Americans; the rhythmic forms of Latin and Caribbean Americans; the simple or complex repetitive-structures of Asian, Indian-Pakistani, Arab, and Persian Americans.

My intent in assembling and presenting *A Transitional Interpretation: American Roots Music By Five Photographers* is to show a sampling of the many innovators, stylists and practitioners who are an ongoing and integral part of our national musical heritage. The world-class photographers participating in this exhibit are cultural ambassadors with a camera who have been visually documenting and preserving the legacy of what is American roots music for present and future generations.

## **Photographers**

**Joseph Deuel** has been an avid photographer since grade school. A dedicated self-employed photographer and web-designer living and working in the Saratoga Springs area, Deuel has worked for several regional/monthly publications including *Eye on Saratoga*, *The Source*, *Buzz*, and *Saratoga Living*. Currently the sound engineer at Caffè Lena, he has been taking photos there since high school in the early 1970s. His work has appeared in nationally distributed CDs by Dave Van Ronk, Rosalie Sorrels, Dan Hicks, The Highwaymen, The Figgs, Chandler Travis, and many others. He has exhibited in various invitational shows, including Saratoga Visual Arts, High Rock Review, the juried Albany/Troy Photo Regional, and “Impasses & Motion: Ten Photographers’ Journeys Through Instants in Music” at the Saratoga Arts Center.

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**Enid Farber**, for twenty years has been the main New York City photographer for *JAZZIZ* magazine, who in their 20th anniversary issue stated:

If we were to identify a *JAZZIZ* visual historian, her name would no doubt be Enid Farber... her photography has taken readers on an odyssey, to experience the most adventurous music and to meet the most interesting personalities, from the new and traditional worlds of Jazz. (January 2003)

Farber began her career in Atlanta, Georgia in 1979 before moving to New York in 1985. By 1997 she was spotlighted by *The New York Times* as “one of the young generation of talented photographers documenting the current jazz scene.” and called a “master of jazz photography” by *Jazztimes* magazine. This was followed by feature articles in the *Photo Insider* magazine (2000) and *JAZZIZ* magazine (2001). In 2002 she received two awards– “Excellence in Jazz Photography” and “Best Photo of the Year” –from the Jazz Journalist’s Association. Noted filmmaker Ken Burns of the 20-hour documentary, *Jazz*, acknowledges Farber, the sole female of 14 legendary photographers, as one of “an extraordinary group of the finest jazz art photographers in the country.”

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**Bryan Lasky** is a talented concert photographer based in Albany, New York, who has been shooting live music professional for over three years. From childhood, well into his teens, Bryan’s parents took him to see many concerts including The Who, Bruce Springsteen, and Cream. For over ten years he has been bringing a camera into shows visually documenting what was happening around him in the audience and on the stage. Moving to China for two years had really sparked his love affair with the camera because he not only snapped pictures of his travels, but also got involved in the local music scene there, shooting many shows for himself, the performers and his friends. Since coming back to America he has primarily focused on shooting concerts, usually attending three to four events per week year round. He is a regular contributor to many on-line music and arts publications, but this is his first time publicly exhibiting his photographic work in a gallery setting.

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**Andrzej “Andre” Pilarczyk** is an award-winning regional fine-arts photographer who has specialized in shooting musicians and music-events for almost 30 years. His distinctive photographs have been exhibited in several regional galleries (The Courts House Gallery - solo exhibit in 2001, The Arts Center of the Capital Region, in partnership with Media Alliance, The Sanctuary for Independent Media, etc.) and are included in a number of private collections. His images have also appeared in numerous national and regional publication including *The New York Times*, *Dirty Linen*, *The Times Union*, *The Daily Gazette*, *The Chronicle*, *Saratoga Living*, and on the web at [nippertown.com](http://nippertown.com) and [albanyjazz.com](http://albanyjazz.com).

Over the past 15 years Pilarczyk’s curatorial exhibits have included several duo & trio shows in the Capital Region (Eye Music Portraits #1 thru 3) and the attendance record-breaking “Impasses & Motion” at the Saratoga Arts Center, voted as one of the top 5 exhibits of 2011 by the arts critics at the Albany Times Union.

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**Lawrence White**’s images have been seen worldwide, over a career lasting over four decades. This includes publications such as *Time*, *Rolling Stone*, *Vogue*, *Vanity Fair*, *Le Monde*, *Der Spiegel*, *The New York Times*, and *Boston Globe* to name only a few. In 2001 his images of the terrorist attacks in New York City won a New York Press Association Award for journalistic photography. Lawrence White is currently the chief photographer for *Saratoga Living*. He also photographs for Saratoga Performing Arts Center (SPAC) and teaches workshops through Saratoga Arts. He has also taught photography at SUNY Adirondack.

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