

GERALD PETERS GALLERY



Dan Budnik, Jasper Johns with Targets, 1958, Fuji Crystal Archive Print, 16 ½ x 13 inches, copyright, Dan Budnik

Portraits of Popular Culture Icons Opening at Gerald Peters Gallery

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Santa Fe, NM, July 21, 2008 -- The Gerald Peters Gallery, Santa Fe, is pleased to announce a late summer photography exhibition entitled, *Artists, Musicians and Writers: Imaging America's Culture Makers*, from August 22 – September 20, 2008. This exhibition of photographs will showcase portraits of American artists who have made significant contributions to popular culture in the fields of fine arts, music, literature and film. A free public reception will open the exhibition Friday, August 22 from 5:00 to 7:00pm, and the show will continue through Saturday, September 20.

One of the many artists whose work will be highlighted, Dan Budnik, is a regular exhibitor at the Gerald Peters Gallery, Santa Fe. No stranger to New Mexico, Budnik came to the state in 1970 concerned with the return of the ancestral lands of Blue Lake to the native people of Taos Pueblo. In 1975, Georgia O'Keeffe invited Budnik to photograph her at Ghost Ranch. The resulting photographic series reveals a vital, joyous and deeply human side of the aging artist, who is sometimes inaccurately portrayed as a staunch recluse. Other important luminaries of American art portrayed by Budnik's large color and black-and-white photographs include David Smith, Jasper Johns, Willem de Kooning, Robert Rauschenberg, Louise Nevelson, and Diane Arbus. A candid of writer James Baldwin during a Civil Rights march in 1965 (also by Budnik), a dramatic pose by Tennessee Williams by Baron Wolman, and portrayal of Woody Allen in a quirky Arizona backdrop by Judy Miller round out the surprises in the "writers" section of the show.

The robust musical section of this exhibition is comprised of both national and regional celebrities. One highlight is a tongue-in-cheek portrait of Elvis Presley at Graceland by William Eggleston. Raised in Mississippi, Eggleston is known for his nostalgia for all things American and his quirky sense of humor in locating the disturbing beauty in the mundane. Also featured in the exhibition are works by *Rolling Stone Magazine* photographer Baron Wolman. With all-inclusive and uncensored access, Wolman captured rare and intimate portraits of rock and pop greats including Joni Mitchell, Frank Zappa, Jimi Hendrix and Jim Morrison, all which can be seen in the show. Local music photographers Paul Slaughter and Bob Compton contribute black

and white portraits of Dizzie Gillespie, Miles Davis, and Dr. John. Santa Fe's own Thirst Ear Music Festival is memorialized in a photograph of Texas troubadours Guy Clark and Verlon Thompson by Jack Kotz.

Artists, Musicians and Writers: Imaging America's Culture Makers.

Exhibition: August 22 – September 20, 2008

Public Reception: August 22, 5 to 7 pm

For more information on this popular culture exhibition of photographic portraits, please contact:

Catherine Whitney
Director of Twentieth Century American Art and Photography
Gerald Peters Gallery
1011 Paseo de Peralta
Santa Fe, NM 87501
(505) 954-5716
cwhitney@gpgallery.com
www.gpgallery.com