



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Anthony Spearman-Leach
Chief Communications Officer
Charles H. Wright Museum
313-494-5879
aspearman-leach@maah-detroit.org

Charles H. Wright Museum's Newest Exhibition: "Legends of the Music: The Photography of Leni Sinclair"

June, 2009 – May, 2010

The Charles H. Wright Museum is pleased to present "Legends of the Music: The Photography of Leni Sinclair" as its latest exhibition, during its continued celebration of Freedom and Hope this June through July, 2009. The exhibition's soul stirring and turbo-charged images evoke the joy found in living in the moment, the exuberance unleashed in overcoming oppression, and the hope that is unearthed when we cooperate and collaborate. Leni's works are a perfect compliment to the Museum's current exhibitions: "Freedom's Sisters" and "And Still We Rise.

Leni Sinclair's photography exemplifies our current programmatic themes of "Freedom and Hope" at the Museum. Having fled the oppressive East German regime at eighteen years of age to seize both her freedom to choose and her artistic freedom, Leni came to Detroit, co-founded the Detroit Artists Workshop, embraced the counter culture revolution and began photographing avant-garde artists and music legends like Miles Davis, Thelonious Monk and Stevie Wonder. Every eye that falls upon an image captured by Leni discovers an element of themselves, a happy memory or a personal philosophy that lives within it. Leni's photography invites you to celebrate yourself and to rejoice in whom you are.

Leni's photography is iconic, and her photos have appeared in LP and CD covers, books, magazines and many newspapers. Her collective works chronicle the artistic histories of the late 1960's Detroit underground scene and that period's radical political movements in both Detroit and the nation. Spanning more than four decades, Leni's photo album is a Who's Who of greatness in music: Jimi Hendrix, Marvin Gaye, Al Green, Aretha Franklin, The Four Tops, Luther Vandross, Patti LaBelle, and Ray Charles. A living example of resilience, determination and our capacity for hope, Leni remains a Detroit resident, testifies that our greatness still shines and continues to chronicle our greatness as it is born. Recently, Leni said, "All I'm hoping for is that I live a long time and my eyes stay good for a long time so I can get done all the work I've started."

Visit the Charles H. Wright Museum and enjoy "Legends of the Music: The Photography of Leni Sinclair."

###

ABOUT CHARLES H. WRIGHT MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History provides learning opportunities, exhibitions, programs and events based on collections and research that explore the diverse history and culture of African Americans and their African origins. The Charles H. Wright Museum strives to be recognized as the institution of choice for exploring and presenting African American history and culture. The Museum is located at 315 E. Warren Avenue in Detroit's cultural district. Additional information concerning exhibitions, events and public programs can be obtained by visiting CharlesHWrightMuseum.org