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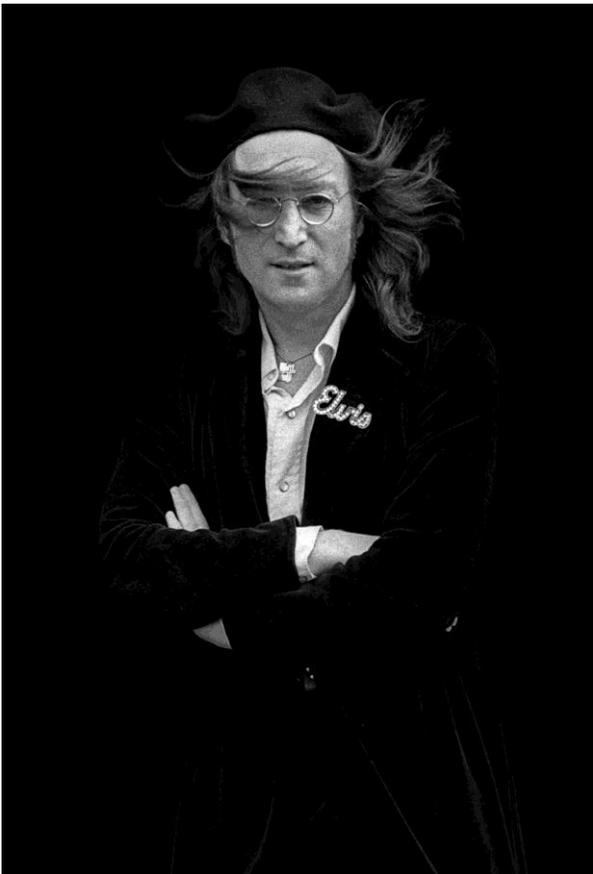
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SHELDON ART GALLERIES FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHS OF ACCLAIMED ACTORS, MUSICIANS AND FILM DIRECTORS OF THE PAST 40 YEARS BY NEW YORK PHOTOGRAPHER BRIAN HAMILL

ST. LOUIS, MO - The Sheldon Art Galleries presents *Brian Hamill: Tests of Time*, June 10 – August 20, 2016 in the Gallery of Photography. **An opening reception is scheduled for Friday, June 10 from 5 – 7 p.m.** The Sheldon Art Galleries are open Tuesdays, Noon – 8 p.m.; Wednesdays - Fridays, Noon – 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and one hour prior to Sheldon performances and during intermission. Admission is free. For more information on exhibitions, visit the galleries' website at TheSheldon.org. *The exhibition is made possible by Capes Sokol.*



This exhibit by New York-based photographer Brian Hamill features some of the most fascinating and acclaimed actors, musicians and film directors of the past 40 years, some taken early in their careers. These include Woody Allen, Alec Baldwin, Elia Kazan, John Lennon, Frank Sinatra, Barbra Streisand, Christopher Walken, and many other luminaries. Also on view are photographs that Hamill made as the set photographer on legendary films like Martin Scorsese's *Raging Bull* and Woody Allen's *Manhattan*, a rare group of images made of John Lennon in his Bank Street apartment in 1972, and on the rooftop of his apartment building and inside his two apartments in The Dakota in 1975. Another series of photographs focuses on the heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali during the height of his phenomenal career. Hamill says of his work "*As my most important inspiration, and great photographer, Henri-Cartier Bresson once said: "I have always tried to capture "the decisive moment" with my photographs. Whether it is the dramatic point of a scene on a movie set or the essence and sparkle of an individual in a photojournalistic portrait or an event, I look to capture a defining moment."*

MORE....

Sheldon Art Galleries/ *Brian Hamill: Tests of Time*
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Born in Brooklyn, New York, Brian Hamill studied photography at the Rochester Institute of Technology. In the mid-1960s, he began his long career as a photojournalist covering everything from the rock & roll scene and politics, to entertainment and sports (especially the boxing world). In the late 1960s, Hamill worked for a few years as an assistant to several top fashion photographers. He traveled to Northern Ireland in the early 1970s to photograph the Troubles for *The New York Times Magazine*, and simultaneously widened his photojournalistic scope into a unit still photographer on movie sets. Since then he has worked as a still photographer on over 75 movies including 26 Woody Allen films, resulting in the much acclaimed coffee table photo book titled *Woody Allen At Work: The Photographs of Brian Hamill* (Harry N. Abrams, 1995). Allen says of Hamill's work, "His currency is knowledge, information, connections, street smarts. There's not a person he doesn't know or he doesn't have the skinny on or know about...It's really quite astonishing."

Hamill's work has also appeared in numerous other books and publications and in many group and solo exhibitions including a one-man show at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in 1995. He has also had many solo exhibitions in New York City, Los Angeles, Toronto, Santa Fe and Austin that included images of John Lennon, Muhammad Ali, Mick Jagger, Tina Turner, Robert DeNiro from *Raging Bull* and Woody Allen from *Manhattan* and *Annie Hall*. Hamill's fine art photography is represented in numerous private collections throughout the US and Europe. A self-proclaimed "devoted and fiercely loyal New Yorker," Hamill resides in New York City.

The not-for-profit Sheldon Art Galleries exhibits works by local, national and international artists in all media. Over 6,000 square feet of the galleries' spaces on the 2nd floor are permanently devoted to rotating exhibits of photography, architecture, music art and history and children's art. A sculpture garden, seen from both the atrium lobby and the connecting glass bridge, features periodic rotations and installations, and the Nancy Spirtas Kranzberg Gallery on the lower level features art of all media. The Sheldon actively supports the work of St. Louis artists in all mediums and features a dedicated gallery with museum-quality exhibits by St. Louis artists, past and present.

Financial Assistance to the Galleries are provided by the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency and by the Regional Arts Commission and the Arts and Education Council.

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Image Credit: Brian Hamill, *Blowin' in the Wind*, 1975, inkjet print from scanned negative, 17 x 11 inches, courtesy and © Brian Hamill.