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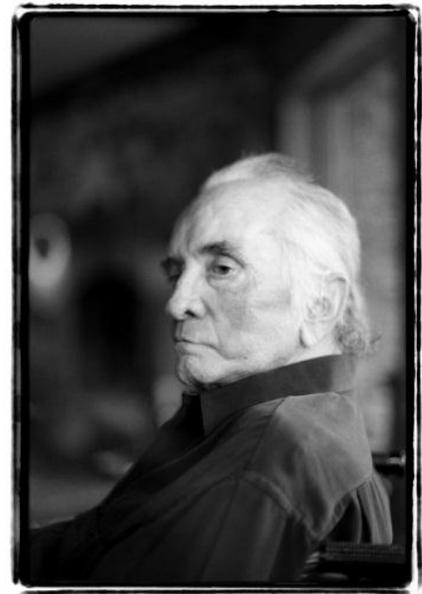


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 28, 2014

SHELDON ART GALLERIES FEATURES EXHIBIT OF IMPORTANT COUNTRY MUSIC ARTIFACTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE COLLECTION OF MARTY STUART

ST. LOUIS, MO - The Sheldon Art Galleries presents *Marty Stuart: The Art of Country Music*, October 3, 2014 – January 3, 2015 in the Gallery of Music. **An opening reception is scheduled for Friday, October 3 from 5 – 7 p.m.** Galleries are open until 9 p.m. for First Fridays in Grand Center. 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.

This exhibition features rare costumes and other artifacts once owned by some of country music's most enduring legends, including Johnny Cash, Hank Williams, Patsy Cline and Porter Wagoner from the collection of country music star, Marty Stuart. A beautiful hand appliquéd black and red suit and matching knee high boots once worn by Johnny Cash; Porter Wagoner's guitar and a rhinestoned suit designed by the famed Nudie Cohn; iconic hand-written song manuscripts, including "Your Cold, Cold Heart," c. 1950 by Hank Williams and "Folsom Prison Blues" by Johnny Cash; and a dress and makeup bag once belonging to Patsy Cline; among other treasures, are included. The exhibition is augmented by a large selection of Stuart's own black and white and color photographs of country music icons, among them Dolly Parton, Loretta Lynn, Willie Nelson, and Lester Flatt and Earl Scruggs, which are a photographic love letter to country music history. Stuart is a leading curator of roots music memorabilia and a photographer of roots pioneers. A preservationist, he has collected the artifacts of country music for many years, realizing that they were being disregarded lost or destroyed. Stuart is the focus of several photographic monographs, including *Pilgrims: Sinners, Saints, and Prophets* (1999), *Country Music: The Masters* (2008) and *American Ballads* (2014). As a musician, Stuart has performed and recorded with music legends including Merle Haggard and Johnny Cash, and is destined to join their ranks as one of country music's most influential stars. He and His Fabulous Superlatives, will perform in concert on the night of the exhibit opening on October 3, 2014.



MORE...

Sheldon Art Galleries/ *Marty Stuart: The Art of Country Music*
August 28, 2014

Gallery Talk: Friday, October 3, 6 - 6:30 p.m., Marty and Hilda Stuart, Gallery of Photography, admission free, but reservations required. Space is limited! Call Susan Sheppard at 314-533-9900 x37 or email ssheppard@TheSheldon.org to reserve your seat.

Related concert: Marty Stuart and His Fabulous Superlatives, Friday, October 3, 2014, 8 p.m.

Grammy-winning music icon Marty Stuart returns to The Sheldon performing music inspired by his Mississippi upbringing and deep country roots. *\$40 orchestra/\$35 balcony*. Call MetroTix at 314-534-1111 or visit TheSheldon.org.
Sponsored by Retirement Housing Development. Welcomed by 88.1 KDHX.

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, jazz 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 for this project has been provided by the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency. Support is provided by the Regional Arts Commission and the Arts and Education Council.

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*The exhibition is made possible in part by Karen and Lawrence Kotner.
Part of the American Arts Experience – St. Louis*

Image caption: Marty Stuart, *Final Portrait of Johnny Cash*, September 8, 2003, gelatin silver print, 24 x 20 inches, Collection of the Tennessee State Museum, © and courtesy of Marty Stuart.