

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Emily Richard
Manager, Corporate Communications
(615) 275-1611
www.flynashville.com

Arts at the Airport: New Winter Flying Solo Series

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – The winter installment of the Flying Solo Series showcase at Nashville International Airport (BNA) will be on display beginning Dec. 8. Each season, Flying Solo, the Arts at the Airport's renowned exhibition program, spotlights talented regional artists. The Flying Solo exhibits strengthen the Nashville Airports Experience by providing passengers, partners and employees with exceptional visual art.

Justin Simcik, Antuco Chicaiza, Annette Elizabeth Fournet, Carrol Harding McTyre, the Tennessee Association of Craft Artists (TACA), and the students of Nossi College of Art are the featured artists for the 2008 winter exhibit. The showcase runs Dec. 7, 2008, through March 1, 2009. In addition to the Flying Solo Winter exhibit, the photographs of country music legend Marty Stuart will be on display through June 30, 2009.

"We are pleased to have such an impressive spectrum of visual art on display at Nashville International Airport," said Raul Regalado, president and CEO of the Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority (MNA). "The Authority's Arts at the Airport program is bringing the talents of Tennessee's artists to passengers and visitors to Nashville."

Justin Simcik **Ticketing Lobby South**

Justin Simcik was born in Austin, Texas, in 1976. As an adolescent, Simcik spent summer days alongside his father, learning the construction trade. He then moved to Seattle to start his own company as a specialty contractor fabricating and installing ceramic and natural stone tile. After a client noted the artistic quality of his tile work, he decided to pursue art full time.

Simcik completed a bachelor of fine arts degree majoring in both painting and sculpture from Cornish College of the Arts in 2003, graduating magna cum laude. As a student, Simcik was a two-time Merit Award recipient, as well as a President's Scholarship winner. He has shown in group shows at the Seattle Art Museum, The Seattle Center, and at The Washington State Trade and Convention Center. He has recently exhibited at both the I-5 Gallery, and at The Brewery Arts Colony in Los Angeles. His work is included in several private and public art collections in Austin, Seattle, Los Angeles and Nashville. He is represented by Take121 Arts in Nashville.

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“My work explores the idea of using various industrial materials as paint,” said Simcik. “By wrapping and layering materials such as fiberglass screen, polytarp, PVC, landscape fabric, duct tape, mesh tape and safety tape I began to formulate ‘construction art.’ I found these high-performance, synthetic materials produced a variety of visual interest with vibrant colors, texture, pattern, and linear qualities. Most importantly, in my process, I use the inherent color of each material as both surface substrate and color palette.”

Antuco Chicaiza Ticketing Lobby North

Born in Wichita Falls, Texas, Antuco Chicaiza is a descendant of the Salasaca Indians. He attended the New World School of the Arts and now lives in Knoxville, Tenn. Chicaiza’s work has been featured in *International Art Magazine* and *South Florida Magazine*. His artwork has recently been exhibited at the A-1 Artlab, Knoxville Museum of Art, and the 2008 Dogwood Fine Arts Show.

“The piece is based on what we can do as a people no matter what color or race we are. We can all improve our world and leave a safe environment for future generations,” said Chicaiza. “Using exaggerated hands, strong color, and passion, I try to show respect for family, all living things and culture. It is my goal to keep the spirit of my ancestors alive, not only in my art work, but in my children.”

Annette Elizabeth Fournet Concourse C

Annette Elizabeth Fournet has exhibited her photography at galleries and museums in France, Denmark, Greece, Hungary, Romania, Kyrgyzstan, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Great Britain and the United States.

In the United States her work is represented by the Joseph Bellows Gallery, San Diego, Cal., Thomas Deans Gallery, Atlanta, Ga., and AfterImage Gallery, Dallas, Texas. Fournet lives in Memphis, Tenn., and in Prague, Czech Republic. She is currently teaching photography at the University of Memphis.

“In the early ‘90s, I began to photograph in Eastern Europe,” said Fournet. “I was fascinated by the atmosphere of suspended time, caused by the isolation of the iron curtain. I witnessed many changes taking place in the Czech Republic after the Velvet Revolution. I witnessed a culture in transition and I found myself transformed by my experiences there. The changes effected both positive and negative results. I found myself photographing with a sense of nostalgia and regret for the things, both good and bad that would disappear under the onslaught of change.”

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Carrol Harding McTyre A/B Art Case

McTyre received a bachelor of fine arts degree from the College of Communication and Fine Arts at the University of Memphis. She received the Merit Award in the Southeastern Juried Exhibition in 1999. Recent exhibitions include the Southeastern Biennale at the Mobile Museum of Modern Art, Sarratt Gallery at Vanderbilt University and the FedEx Art Forum in Memphis.

“Have you ever listened to an economist speak,” asks McTyre. “The words they juxtapose against one another sound like poetry. Just listen, ‘economic might,’ ‘resource immobility,’ ‘market equilibrium.’ It is the phrase ‘global elasticity’ that serves as the catalyst for this work of art. A map of the world, constructed from elastic, stretched and slightly distorted is the visual realization of the cause-and-effect relationship found in our global economy.”

Tennessee Association of Craft Artists (TACA) C/D Art Cases

Arts at the Airport and the Tennessee Association of Craft Artists (TACA) are celebrating a five-year partnership, which brings live craft demonstrations to the Nashville International Airport for the enrichment of the traveling public.

This exhibit, “Unexpected Treasures II: Tennessee Craft at Nashville International Airport,” is a follow-up to a 2005 exhibition featuring TACA artists. The work of artists who have been regular craft demonstrators will be featured, showcasing a variety of craft media.

Craft demonstrations in the terminal are made possible by the MNAA and Cultural Crossroads grants from the Tennessee Arts Commission. For a TACA demonstration schedule and information about this program, visit www.flynashville.com.

Nossi College of Art Concourse A *Continuation of Summer 2008 Exhibit on Display Through January 2009*

This exhibit highlights the photography students of Nossi College of Art in Goodlettsville, Tenn. These students have been skillfully trained in the latest technology and methods used in commercial photography. The exhibit represents the broad interests and talents of the students in relation to the field of commercial photography.

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Nossi is the only college in the state of Tennessee to win two consecutive national Student ADDY Awards for photography from the American Advertising Federation.

The MNAA showcases the region's visual and performing arts through its Arts at the Airport program. The award-winning Arts at the Airport program presents works by local, regional, and national artists for the enjoyment and enrichment of Nashville International Airport's (BNA) and John C. Tune Airport's (JWN) passengers and visitors. In addition to visual art, Arts at the Airport sponsors live music in the terminal.

Arts at the Airport receives funding for the visual arts from the Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority (MNAA) and the Tennessee Arts Commission (TAC). The Flying Solo Exhibition Series is supported by the MNAA, the TAC, and is funded under an agreement with the State of Tennessee. Music performances are sponsored by the MNAA. The Tennessee Jazz and Blues Society, Inc. Holiday Performance Series is funded in part by the TAC. For more information about Arts at the Airport, please call (615) 275-1614 or visit www.flynashville.com.

PHOTOS: Press photographs for the art are available on the Web site in the Newsroom at: <http://www.flynashville.com/newsroom/photos.aspx>

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