



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ***Take in music legends from Front Row Center at the Fine Arts Center***

**COLORADO SPRINGS (Jan. 20, 2017)** — The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center (FAC) is excited to present *Front Row Center*, an exhibition showcasing photographer Larry Hulst and his stunning images of well-known musicians, in the museum galleries Feb 18-May 21, 2017. Rock, blues, country, and everything in between; photographer Larry Hulst has captured some of the biggest legends of our time, live on stage. From AC/DC to Carlos Santana and Willie Nelson to David Bowie, Hulst captures dynamic moments from a generation's greatest musicians.

Born in 1946 in San Diego, California, Larry Hulst is a loyal participant in the concert scene. His collection of nearly 3,000 black and white negatives have framed influential musicians spanning five decades of rock history. "When I first started I couldn't afford film," Hulst shares, "so I walked around Sacramento with an empty camera, just trying to learn how to focus." His career began in 1969, when the former Navy corpsman returned home to Sacramento after a tour of duty in Vietnam.

Citing Jim Marshall, Ansel Adams and Lynn Goldsmith among his influences, Hulst is fueled both by his respect for his musical heroes, and his dedication to improving his photography. The hallmark of Hulst's instantly recognizable work is the authentic ability to depict the raw energy and emotion of the concert experience. The only prop he ever needed was the stage. "I never wanted to go backstage," Hulst states, "I want to be where the action is. After all, the 'show' is projected out onto the audience. I want to be in the audience."

While building his anthology of iconic rock imagery, Hulst honed his craft at less manic venues. For 27 years, he worked as a U.S. government photographer. Hulst's lens caught military activities by day, and rock stars by night. His work covered the gamut of Defense Department activities at two Air Force bases, including the US Air Force Academy. He retired from his civil service in 2010, and is now living in Colorado Springs, Colorado with his wife of 40 years, Laura.

Now, it's Hulst's work that projects to an audience. His first concert photos depicted an energetic show by The Who in 1967, at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles. Since then, his concert photography has graced the pages of *Rolling Stone*, *Guitar Player*, *Guitar World*, *Relix*, *Hittin' The Note*, *Mousike*, *Blues Access*, and *Rock and Roll News* magazines, several biographies, and numerous books. His photos have been selected for album art for artists Led Zeppelin, Eric Clapton, Jimi Hendrix, AC/DC, Grateful Dead, Bruce Springsteen, and more. Hulst's image of Jimi Hendrix adorned the terminal walls of Los Angeles International Airport. His professional network includes working relationships with Getty Images and Rock Paper Photo. Larry Hulst remains a mainstay at concerts and live music events.

### **Artist Statement**

My photographs capture the truth, joy, and energy contained within a moment. This series of nearly 80 photographs highlights the rock 'n' roll experience from an audience's stage-level perspective. My work spans from 60s icons like Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin and the Grateful Dead, to 90s singer-songwriters like

Lauren Hill of the Fugees, to modern jam-bands like Phish, and so many in between. I hope my photography expresses the gratitude I and my fellow concert-goers feel for those who've shared their joy of music with us.

This body of work was compiled over a period of several decades. Throughout history, we've captured the threads of our reality through art. From cave etchings to painting to photography, we've relied on art to preserve our experiences. Music is one such enduring part of our lives. While aesthetically enthralling, it flows through our veins and captures our emotions and longing. It is my hope these photographs, taken in the heart of the audience, *Front Row Center*, will showcase the energy and iconography of the concert experience.

For nearly 50 years, my photography has depicted some of popular music's best-known icons. These photographs have been taken with the joy, love, and respect I hold for the artists I've captured on film. I am very enthusiastic to share these images of my musical heroes with you.

### ***Front Row Center: Larry Hulst***

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**When:** Feb. 18-May 21, 2017

**Where:** Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St.

**Admission:** \$15 adults; \$10 student and military (with ID); free for members and kids 12 and under

**Something else:** This exhibition is a participating event with the Month of Photography Denver, a biennial celebration of fine art photography with hundreds of collaborative public events throughout the region <http://www.mopdenver.com/>

**Even more:** For the full rock 'n' roll experience; see the first rock 'n' roll musical, *Bye Bye Birdie* on the FAC Mainstage Mar. 30-Apr. 23!

#### **Fine Arts Center**

In 1919 the Broadmoor Art Academy (BAA) was established in the former home of philanthropists Julie and Spencer Penrose. After the Great Depression hit in 1929, the BAA looked at diversifying further, expanding into an entire arts district under one roof. And that's how the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center (FAC) came to be. The FAC, built in 1936, is a privately funded, non-profit art museum, professional theatre company and arts education center. Built on the foundation of the prestigious BAA, the FAC carries the legacy of Colorado's arts and cultural heritage. One of 16 charter members of the American Alliance of Museums, the FAC offers the best in visual arts via its permanent collection and travelling exhibitions, as a TCG member theatre company, and through arts education with the FAC's Bemis School of Art. The FAC building is considered an architectural treasure in the Rocky Mountain region, designed by John Gaw Meem, and is listed on the National Register of Historical Places. For information, visit [csfineartscenter.org](http://csfineartscenter.org)

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