

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HENRY HORENSTEIN | HONKY TONK: PORTRAITS OF COUNTRY MUSIC

September 6 – October 13, 2012

*Artist's reception:**Thursday, September 6, 2012**6:00 to 8:00 p.m.*

ClampArt is proud to present "Henry Horenstein | Honky Tonk: Portraits of Country Music." The exhibition coincides with the release of the artist's monograph of the same title from W.W. Norton & Company (Hardcover, 120 illus., 10.25 x 10 inches, \$50), which includes a foreword by Eddie Stubbs, one of the two regular announcers for the long-running Grand Ole Opry on WSM radio.

Concentrating on the 1970s, but spanning to the present day, Horenstein's gritty, black-and-white photographs capture the irrepressible spirit of an American institution. Some say the 1970s were the last great decade of country music—between the pomade, plaid jackets, and goofy hillbilly jokes of the 1950s and the more polished "Urban Cowboy" sound of Nashville in the early 1980s. Horenstein's work captures it all, from the roadside seediness of TJ's Lounge to the backstage glamour at the Grand Ole Opry. From bluegrass festivals and country music parks to the honky tonks and dance halls, these images picture such celebrities as Dolly Parton, Jerry Lee Lewis, Waylon Jennings, up to a recent cardboard cut-out of Garth Brooks (which speaks volumes about the artist's personal opinion of the direction the genre has taken of late). However, the photographs feature not only the stars, but also include the familiar venues and enthusiastic fans who sustain them.

Henry Horenstein is the author of more than thirty books to date. His work is represented in the collections of a long list of public institutions including the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; the Museum of Art, Princeton University, New Jersey; the High Museum, Atlanta; the Fogg Museum of Art, Cambridge, Massachusetts; and the George Eastman House, Rochester, New York. He is a professor at the Rhode Island School of Design, and resides in Boston.

For more information please contact Brian Paul Clamp, Director, or visit the gallery's website at www.clampart.com. ClampArt is open Tuesday through Saturday, from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Image: © Henry Horenstein, "Dolly Parton," Symphony Hall, Boston, Massachusetts, 1972, Gelatin silver print (Edition of 5), 36 x 36 inches.

