



MEDIA RELEASE
March 27, 2013

Foncie Pulice, Vancouver's most prolific street photographer, in retrospective at Museum of Vancouver

(VANCOUVER, BC) –Taking thousands of photos each year and about 15 million photos over his lifetime, Foncie Pulice was Vancouver's most prolific and beloved street photographer. Many long-time Vancouver families have Foncie photos in their albums – and the stories to go with them. ***Foncie's Fotos: Man on the Street***, opening at the Museum of Vancouver on June 6, 2013, reveals the life and workstyle of this Vancouver photographer.

Foncie Pulice captured images of Vancouverites on the sidewalks for almost 40 years, shooting from locations along Granville and Hastings. He photographed without discrimination, capturing the full range of ages, ethnicities, and classes that thronged downtown. At a time when personal cameras were rare and family portraits were expensive, Foncie sometimes created the only surviving image of a family member.

"Foncie captured people in motion, literally in mid-stride, stepping with energy into Vancouver's future," explains Joan Siedl, exhibition curator. "His camera lens was fixed at about waist height and pointing slightly up, so that everyone appears slightly larger than life, commanding their patch of sidewalk for an instant."

Foncie claimed that he destroyed all of his negatives, but he did not. The exhibition will include projected images from a surviving reel of over 10,000 negatives shot in May and June 1968 on Granville near Robson. If you happened to walk south on the east side of the 700 block of Granville Street that spring, Foncie may have taken your photo as you passed.

Foncie's camera, which he donated to the Museum when he retired in 1979, is a gimcrack assemblage of war surplus metal plate on wheels, decorated with a red plastic lightening bolt, and with the flash powered by a car battery. The camera used large reels of movie film so that Foncie could shoot for hours on end.

Those with Foncie's Fotos and stories are encouraged to upload and share via a collaboration with Knowledge Network's "Foncie's Corner" website. Knowledge Network is producing shorts about Foncie that will be shown in the exhibition, as well as a feature documentary that will premiere later in the year on Knowledge.

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The Museum of Vancouver is an independent non-profit organization with the mandate to hold a mirror to the city and lead provocative conversations about its past, present, and future.

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Biography

Joan Seidl / Director of Collections and Exhibitions

Joan began working at the Rock County Historical Society in her hometown of Janesville, Wisconsin during high school. She worked in the Education Department at Old Sturbridge Village in Massachusetts and as a curator at the Minnesota Historical Society before moving to Vancouver in 1983 as the trailing, pregnant spouse of an academic. After having a couple of kids, Joan began working as Curator of History at the Museum of Vancouver (then Vancouver Museum) in 1992. In 2008, she became Director of Collections and Exhibitions. Joan holds a degree in history from Grinnell College and a Master of Arts degree in geography from the University of Minnesota.

Resolve Design / Exhibition Designers

Resolve Design tells strategic stories through motion design, film, and exhibit design. Resolve's creative director, Darren Carcary, has art directed and produced more than 50 shows for clients including The Four Seasons, Intrawest, The Lyle Anderson Company, Del Mar Development, ParkLane Homes and Vancity. He has helped establish the branding of national broadcast productions for Discovery Channel HD and Global Television. www.resolve.design