



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Experience art under the Big Top!
The Original *Silver's Circus & Zoo* recreated at the Craft and Folk Art Museum
June 24 to October 7, 2007**

Ever dream of running away to the circus? Want to spend your days in the presence of acrobats, fire-breathers, magicians, and all the adventures of life under the Big Top? ***The Original Silver's Circus & Zoo: Works by Sonny King*** recreates the infamous 1950s Australian traveling circus through the dioramas of Sonny King, an exhibit that opens at the Craft and Folk Art Museum on June 24, 2007.

Inspired by a childhood spent growing up in a circus family, Sonny King creates captivating dioramas of circus life, its people, and performances. Son of an equestrienne mother and a lion-trainer father, Sonny King spent his school vacations traversing the Australian outback with the original Silver's Circus & Zoo, one of country's best-loved shows founded by his father in the post-war era. Life on the circus road was a colorful cacophony of acrobats, artists, and crafty characters, many of whom are represented in Sonny King's artwork.

The lights, mystery, and magic of the time spent with this second family are vividly depicted in Sonny King's sculptures. His artwork captures the vibrancy of childhood memories and nostalgia of a gone-by era in a way that photographs can only hint at. King's hand-made vignettes will be on display at the museum along with paintings, vintage posters, and family photos, all of which tell the lively story of a multi-generational circus family.

The Original Silver's Circus and Zoo: Works by Sonny King will be on view at the Craft and Folk Art Museum from June 24 to October 7, 2007. An **opening reception** will take place on **Saturday, June 23, 2007 from 6pm to 8pm** at the Museum. **An artist's lecture with Sonny King** will take place on **Sunday, August 5, 2007 at 3pm** at CAFAM.

About The Craft and Folk Art Museum

The Craft and Folk Art Museum (CAFAM) is a Los Angeles nonprofit cultural arts organization dedicated to the public presentation and preservation of folk arts and contemporary craft. Founded in 1965 as "The Egg and The Eye" by the late Edith Wyle, who passionately promoted traditional artisans and the virtue of handmade art, the Museum opened in 1973. As a local Museum with global reach, CAFAM seeks to promote international goodwill and global understanding among its citizens.

******Images available upon request******

Craft and Folk Art Museum

5814 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90036

Information

Tel. 323-937-4230
www.cafam.org

Museum Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 11 am – 5 pm
Thursday 11 am – 7 pm
Saturday and Sunday 12 – 6 pm

Museum Admission

General \$5.00 / Students and Seniors 3.00
Members and Children under 12 Free / Free 1st Wednesday of month

Silver's Circus and Zoo: The Art of Sonny King
June 24 to September 30, 2007
Craft and Folk Art Museum



Sonny King
Four Horse Act (detail), 2005
Sculpture in clay and wood



Sonny King
Mervyn King, Lion Act (detail), 2005
Sculpture in clay and wood



Sonny King
Men's Dressing Tent, 2005
Sculpture in clay and wood