

**PRESS RELEASE:**

**CADILLAC:  
PHOTOGRAPHS BY STEPHEN SALMIERI**

**June 28 - August 30, 2008**

**Opening reception with the artist, June 28<sup>th</sup>, 6 – 8 pm**

Joseph Bellows Gallery is pleased to present *CADILLAC: Photographs by Stephen Salmieri*. The exhibition will feature photographs from Salmieri's series and book, *Cadillac: An American Icon*, and will be on view from June 28<sup>th</sup> through August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008. An opening reception with the artist will be held on Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, (6-8 pm).

Perhaps no other car has so symbolized or embodied the notion of "The American Dream" as Cadillac. From 1972 to 1984, Stephen Salmieri traveled the United States, from New York to Beverly Hills, photographing Cadillacs. In over eighty pictures, he captured the evolution of an American automotive icon. This photographic journey concluded in 1985 with the publication of *Cadillac: An American Icon*, published by Rizzoli International Publications. In the introduction to the book Owen Edwards writes, "The Cadillac is no more just another car than San Simeon is just another house: it is the machine as ultimate symbol, as a way of life, a philosophical statement, a form of patriotism even – for more than a few Cadillac zealots – something very close to a religious experience."

Salmieri's richly-toned black and white portraits of these great automobiles create a fused portrait of America and of the dreams of their owners. Reflected in the cars' evolving exteriors are, as Edwards put it, "hope, despair, redemption, longing, elegance, ostentations, conformity, and wild eccentricity."

Stephen Salmieri was born in Brooklyn, New York and attended the School of Visual Arts in New York from 1962-1966. His photographs are included in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art, New York, Brooklyn Museum, New York, Smithsonian Institute, Washington D.C., Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, New York, Flint Institute, Michigan, and the Museum of the City of New York. His publications include *American Grilles* (1978, Hartcourt-Brace) and *Cadillac: An American Icon* (1985, Rizzoli).

---

For more information, please contact Carol Lee Brosseau:  
carollee@josephbellows.com

Joseph Bellows Gallery  
7661 Girard Avenue  
La Jolla, CA 92037  
(858) 456-5620 tel., (858) 456-5621 fax  
10 am - 6 pm, Tuesday through Friday  
11 am - 5 pm, Saturday  
[www.josephbellows.com](http://www.josephbellows.com)