

MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

NEWS RELEASE

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State Fair Art Unveiled This Afternoon

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The Minnesota State Fair's 2009 Commemorative Art was unveiled this afternoon by Minnesota artist Leo Stans. Surrounded by media, State Fair fans and art enthusiasts, he presented his original piece to the public for the first time at the J.V. Bailey House on the State Fairgrounds.

Stans' interpretation of the Great Minnesota Get-Together is sixth in a series of annual artwork created exclusively for the State Fair. Drawing viewers in with brilliant light, the oil-on-canvas celebrates the 100th anniversary of the historic Grandstand while capturing the spirit and excitement of the Great Minnesota Get-Together.

"The State Fair's history and all the people who have been there over the years were the major inspiration in creating the piece," Stans says. "The incredible variety of sights, sounds and smells is what's most exciting--the dazzling midway at night, music from the Grandstand shows and the smell of mini donuts fresh from the fryer."

Commemorative art posters and a limited number of signed giclee prints featuring Stans' piece are available for purchase at www.msffoundation.org. Posters may also be purchased at the State Fair Box Office on the fairgrounds. Sizes and pricing are as follows: posters (18"x24") \$10; and large giclee prints (18"x24") \$100. Proceeds from commemorative art merchandise support the Minnesota State Fair Foundation 501(c)(3) mission to preserve and improve State Fair buildings, grounds and educational programs.

The 2009 Minnesota State Fair runs Aug. 27 - Sept. 7. Visit www.mnstatefair.org for more information.

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