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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Museum Hours:** Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. **Admission:** Free

**Location:** 1324 West Clay Street, Houston, TX 77019 Tel: (713) 522-4652 Fax: (713) 522-5694

**Web Address:** [www.printingmuseum.org](http://www.printingmuseum.org)



The Museum of Printing History and Houston Arts and Media are proud to present the exhibition *Bayou City Noir: The Photography of Marvin Zindler*.

For decades, Zindler was known in Houston and throughout the world as KTRK-TV's flamboyant consumer affairs reporter and advocate for the indigent. However, what many do not know is that during the early 1950s, Zindler prowled Houston's streets as a newspaper photographer covering the crime beat. Working for the now-defunct daily *Houston Press*, Zindler caught Houstonians at their most vulnerable. Crime suspects, robbery victims, socialites, wayward juveniles and even domestic violence victims were captured in unflinching detail.

*Bayou City Noir: The Photography of Marvin Zindler* not only provides a dramatic look at the photographic eye of a Houston icon, it spotlights the days when big city journalism captured the drama of the day, and when Houston was known as the murder capital of the nation. Many of the photos exhibited have never before been seen publicly or have not been seen since publication in the early 1950s. Some of the photos come from the *Houston Press* collection at the Houston Metropolitan Research Center while others are graciously provided by the Zindler family.

Zindler was born in Houston on August 10, 1921. His media career began in the 1940s as a radio disc jockey while also employed at his father's clothing store. In 1950, he became a cameraman and reporter for Southwest Film Production Company, which provided news for KPRC (Channel 2). Two years later, Zindler joined the *Houston Press* to work as a freelance photographer. He eventually left the retail business and joined the Harris County Sheriff's Department in 1962. Two years before joining KTRK (Channel 13) in 1973, Zindler established a consumer fraud division with the Harris County District Attorney's Office.

At KTRK, Zindler quickly made headlines through reports that led to the closure of the Chicken Ranch brothel in La Grange, Texas. The work became the inspiration of the Broadway musical and film "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas." Aside from his investigative work, Zindler also highlighted the cleanliness of Houston's restaurants through his rat and roach reports. Finally, with the help of Houston doctors, Zindler also made sure thousands of indigent children around the world had access to needed medical care. Zindler died in 2007.

*Photos reprinted courtesy of Story Sloane's Gallery. The Museum of Printing History is funded in part by grants from the City of Houston through Houston Arts Alliance. Framing is generously underwritten by Texas Art Supply.*

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## PUBLIC PROGRAMS

### ***Opening Reception***

Thursday, March 24, 2011, 6-8 P.M. at Museum of Printing History  
Free and open to the public.

### ***Remembering Marvin: Reflections on a Houston Icon***

Wednesday, April 13, 2011, 6:30 P.M. at Rice Media Center  
(Located at the corner of University Blvd and Stockton, entrance #8 on the Rice University Campus.  
For location details, check <http://film.rice.edu/>)  
Free and open to the public.

Roundtable Panelists: **Dr. Joseph Agris** of the Agris-Zindler Children's Fund; **Ed Brandon**, former KTRK weatherman; **Bob Dows**, KTRK cameraman; **Shara Fryer**, former KTRK anchor; **Lori Reingold**, Zindler's former producer

### ***Into the Lens: Examining the Photography of Marvin Zindler***

Wednesday, May 18, 2011, 6:30 P.M. at Museum of Printing History  
Free and open to the public.

Roundtable Panelists: **Joel Draut**, photo-archivist at Houston Metropolitan Research Center and **Steve Gonzales**, director of photography at Houston Chronicle

### ***Closing Reception & Silent Auction***

Saturday, August 13, 2011, 6-8 P.M. at Museum of Printing History  
Free and open to the public.

All framed photographs will be available for purchase by silent auction throughout the duration of the exhibition. Each photograph will go to the person placing the highest bid by 8pm on Saturday, August 13, 2011. Proceeds benefit Houston Arts and Media and the Museum of Printing History. Please direct all questions to the Museum Gift Shop at 713-522-4652.



THE MUSEUM OF  
PRINTING HISTORY

## Bayou City Noir: The Photography of Marvin Zindler

March 24, 2011 - August 13, 2011



“War Bride Tries to See Son – Beaten,”  
*Houston Press*, Jan. 6, 1953



“Torrid Toni Goes to Jail,” *Houston Press*,  
Feb. 1, 1953



“Husband Was ‘Acting Cute’ – Now He’s Dead,”  
*Houston Press*, May 22, 1953



“A Homey Scene ... Except for Dope,”  
*Houston Press*, Dec. 9, 1952