

**For Immediate Release**

**MUZEO HIGHLIGHTS UNIQUELY AMERICAN MUSIC GENRE WITH  
*STATE OF THE BLUES: THE LIVING LEGEND OF THE DELTA*  
NOW Thru Aug. 15, 2010**

***New Exhibition Showcases the Imagery of Renowned LA-based Photographer  
Jeff Dunas in the Most Comprehensive Exhibition to Ever Showcase The  
Influential Musical Art Form***

**ANAHEIM, Calif. (Jan. 12, 2010)** - - MUZEO (the noted center for arts, knowledge, entertainment, and culture in Anaheim, CA) has debuted its newest exhibit **State of the Blues: The Living Legend of the Delta**, featuring the renowned work of LA-based photographer Jeff Dunas in the most comprehensive museum exhibition to ever highlight the uniquely American music genre known as the blues. Showcased in the Carnegie Building at the MUZEO, the exhibit pays homage to the living legends of the Mississippi Delta blues via a series of intimate photo portraits.

Through the photographic artistry of Jeff Dunas, **State of the Blues** is an important exhibition that honors the men and women who have made this music form so enduring. Alongside these portraits, Dunas has documented the landmark juke joints and byways of the Blues Highway, a heritage trail that runs from New Orleans through the Mississippi Delta to Chicago.

Such luminaries as B.B. King, John Lee Hooker, Charlie Musselwhite, and Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown have preserved the inspirational tradition of the Delta blues -an African-American musical legacy that has influenced almost all forms of contemporary music. With universal resonance, the blues makes poetry of sorrow and finds humor and bitter irony in the hardships of life. It tells of loves lost and regained, of the endless struggle to put food on the table, and of the fight for dignity in a world that judges people by the color of their skin.

Jan. 9 through Feb. 12, every visitor to **State of the Blues** will receive a **free ticket** for a return visit for its other new exhibition, **Frogs: A Chorus of Colors**, opening Feb. 13.

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“This exhibition is for anyone who has ever been moved by the soulful sound of the blues,” says Peter Comiskey, executive director of MUZEO. “The portraits and imagery on display poignantly portray the essence of this quintessentially American music and the environment out of which this great songbook has emanated - it’s an exhibit of truly powerful imagery.”

In his book “State of the Blues: The Living Legacy of the Delta” (the 1998 hardcover book upon which the exhibition is based) published by Aperture Foundation, Dunas has captured many legends of the blues - both famous and obscure, along with many of its well-known points of origin. The book also features interviews with leading blues performers, a preface by John Lee Hooker, and an introduction by William Ferris. The acclaimed photography of Dunas has also been captured in such impressive art books as “Up Close & Personal” (a canvas of the contemporary world of celebrities, the rich and the famous) and “American Pictures” (an overview of small-town life).

Admission to **State of the Blues: The Living Legend of the Delta** is: \$13 adult admission \$9 children (12 and under). Children 3 and under are free. Check the web for online discounts at [muzeo.org](http://muzeo.org). Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. For general MUZEO information, please call 714 – 95-MUZEO (956-8936) or visit [www.MUZEO.org](http://www.MUZEO.org).

MUZEO, the museum of celebration and understanding located at 241 South Anaheim Boulevard in Anaheim, CA., is designed to broaden awareness of matters and issues outside of its immediate environment through the presentation of internationally renowned traveling exhibitions, presentations and unique programming designed to appeal to visitors of all ages. A new model for urban cultural centers the MUZEO features is a 25,000 square foot complex that encompasses Anaheim’s original Carnegie Library (built in 1908) and a state-of-the art gallery space that has been seamlessly integrated into an urban setting, intimately surrounded by two connecting courtyards, apartment loft living and street-level retail outlets.

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