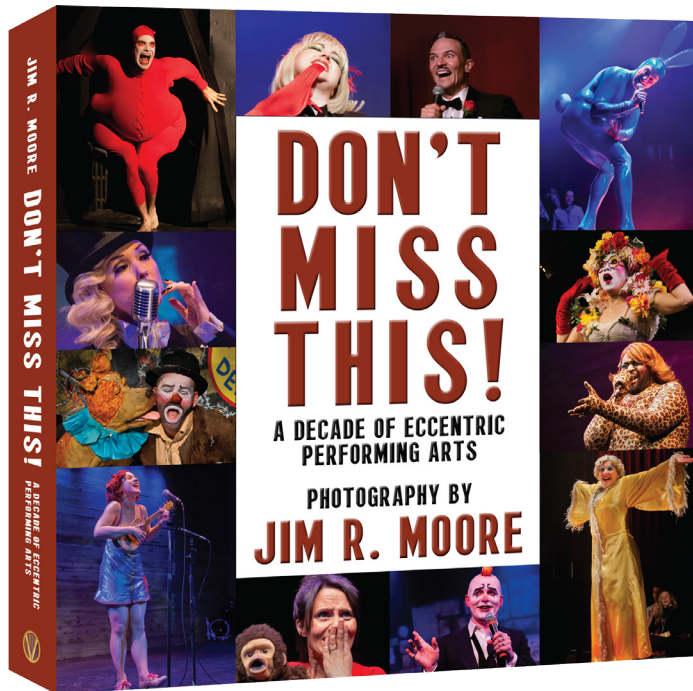


# MEDIA KIT

# DON'T MISS THIS!

## A DECADE OF ECCENTRIC PERFORMING ARTS

## PHOTOGRAPHY BY JIM R. MOORE



*Over 200  
photographs, with  
accompanying  
essays, chronicling  
the last decade  
of eccentric  
performing arts.*

*Author:* Jim R. Moore

*Category:* Performing Arts / Photography

*Print ISBN:* 978-1-7372036-0-5

*Publisher:* Vaudevisuals Press

*Contact:* Baron Otto von Tu, [info@vvpress.com](mailto:info@vvpress.com)

*Website:* [vvpress.com](http://vvpress.com)

*Blog:* [vaudevisuals.com](http://vaudevisuals.com)

*BISAC codes:*

PHO011000 Photography/Individual Photographers/General

PHO011010 Photography/Individual Photographers/Artists' Books

*Availability:*

Ingram

Amazon

Baker & Taylor

Barnes & Noble

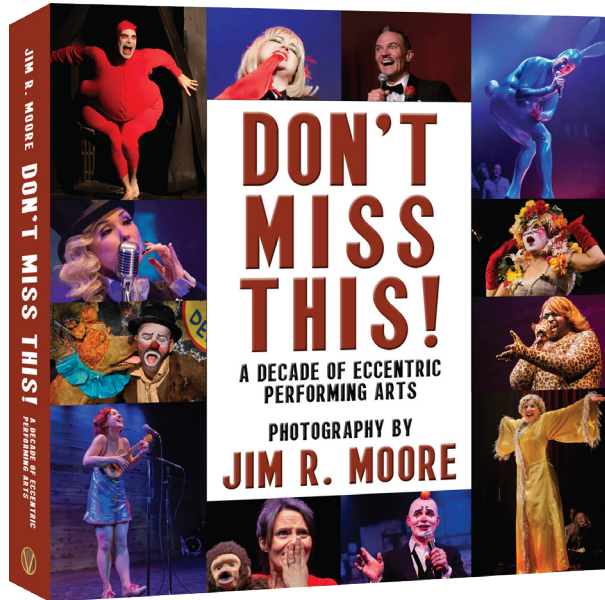
BCH Fulfillment

### INSIDE:

ONE-PAGE SELL SHEET	2
QUOTES	3
TABLE OF CONTENTS	4
SAMPLE INTERVIEW	5
ESSAY EXCERPTS	7
AUTHOR BIO	8
LIST OF PERFORMERS	10
RESOURCES/CONTACT	12
BWW INTERVIEW	13

*"I salute my friend Jim Moore for always being present where the action is and for his talent at extracting the essence of a performing scene. Bravo, well done!"*

**PHILIPPE PETIT**, high wire artist



**B**ehold the oeuvre of Jim R. Moore, chronicler of the eccentric arts (vaudeville, circus, sideshow, burlesque, cabaret, clown, et al.) for nearly half a century. Moore has been a fixture of New York's teeming night life for longer than most of the folks who perform there can remember.

In these pages you will find the world's most eccentric extended family: clowns, acrobats, thespians, musicians, contortionists, jugglers, puppeteers, ventriloquists, daredevils, aerialists, opera singers, drag stars, monologists, impresarios, magicians, impressionists, fire-eaters, nuts, and acts of the sort we still don't have any polite name for. The best of these performers are several of those things at once. Some have international followings, some are the well-kept secrets of underground connoisseurs.

One thing's for certain: perusing these pages is like a trip to a circus with 300 rings. Prepare to be delighted.

*"Jim is a wonderful portraitist...the Nadar of the Eccentric Performing Arts!"*

**DOMINIQUE JANDO**, founder,  
Circopedia; author, *Big Apple Circus: 25 Years*

# DON'T MISS THIS!

**A DECADE OF ECCENTRIC  
PERFORMING ARTS**

**PHOTOGRAPHY BY  
JIM R. MOORE**

**WITH ESSAYS BY  
PAT OLESZKO • MICHAEL SMITH  
JOHN TOWSEN • PAUL ZALOOM**

- *10 years*
- *284 pages*
- *Over 200 full-color photographs*

*Author:* Jim R. Moore

*Category:* Performing Arts / Photography

*Print ISBN:* 978-1-7372036-0-5

*Publisher:* Vaudevisuals Press

*Contact:* Baron Otto von Tu, info@vypress.com

*Website:* vypress.com

*Blog:* vaudevisuals.com

*BISAC codes:*

PHO011000 Photography/Individual Photographers/General

PHO011010 Photography/Individual Photographers/Artists' Books

*Availability:*

Ingram

Baker & Taylor

BCH Fulfillment

Amazon

Barnes & Noble

# QUOTES

“In these pages, you will find the world’s most eccentric extended family: clowns, acrobats, thespians, musicians, contortionists, juggles, puppeteers, ventriloquists, daredevils, aerialists, opera singers, drags stars, monologiss, impressarios, magicians, impressionists, fire-eaters, nuts, and acts of the sort we still don’t have a polite name for. The best of these performers are several of those things at once. Some have international followings, some are the well-kept secrets of underground connoisseurs. One thing’s for certain: perusing these pages is like a trip to a circus with 300 rings. Prepare to be delighted.”

**TRAV S.D.**, *founder, American Vaudeville Theatre; author, No Applause — Just Throw Money: The Book That Made Vaudeville Famous*

“I salute my friend Jim Moore for always being present where the action is and for his talent at extracting the essence of a performing scene. Bravo, well done!”

**PHILIPPE PETIT**, *high wire artist*

“Through his lens, Jim Moore has documented several decades of wonderful performers...who have always made me laugh!”

**PAUL BINDER**, *founder, Big Apple Circus; author, Never Quote the Weather to a Sea Lion and Other Uncommon Tales*

“The minute I opened Jim Moore’s new book, *Don’t Miss This!*, I couldn’t stop. I had to turn every page. This isn’t Jim’s book. It’s my book. And, it’s your book too. Buy it now!”

**MICHAEL BONGAR**, *CEO, Bongarbiz*

“Jim Moore has photo-documented at least an entire generation of my kind of performers, within the confines of a single decade. Included are a dozen of my former students (they know who they are), and a mentor of mine going back 65 years. (His initials are the late, great Ward Hall.) This book is a treasury of memories!”

**HOVEY BURGESS**, *circus performer and educator*

“Jim is a wonderful portraitist...the Nadar of the eccentric performing arts!”

**DOMINIQUE JANDO**, *founder Circopedia; author, Big Apple Circus: 25 Years*

“An extraordinary collection of images that will serve as the definitive visual legacy for a decade of live performance. No one has his finger more on the pulse of live performance, or has a better photographic eye for it, than Jim.”

**MARK LONERGAN**, *artistic director, Parallel Exit*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

*as it appears in the book*

## CONTENTS

### ESSAYS

Preface · <i>Jim R. Moore</i>	6
With Your Brains and My Body · <i>John Townsen</i>	10
Fool Disclosure · <i>Pat Oleszko</i>	16
What's My Connection to Jim · <i>Michael Smith</i>	20
We Puppeteers · <i>Paul Zaloom</i>	24

### A DECADE OF ECCENTRIC PERFORMING ARTS

2010	29
2011	63
2012	95
2013	109
2014	145
2015	167
2016	181
2017	197
2018	209
2019	241
Photo index <i>with performers' comments</i>	273
Index of performers by name	280
Acknowledgments	282
About the Photographer	282

# SAMPLE INTERVIEW

This is a sample interview for use by journalists and editors. Feel free to quote from this material in coverage of *Don't Miss This!* To schedule an interview with Jim R. Moore, please contact Deborah Monlux at [info@vypress.com](mailto:info@vypress.com).

**Q: If I ask someone what “eccentric performing arts” is, will they know?**

**A:** Someone who is interested in variety performing arts will know, but most lay people won't know.

A typical North American vaudeville performance was made up of a series of separate, unrelated acts grouped together on a common bill. Some of these acts were considered “eccentric” because they were usually either a solo or duo act, based on amazing skills such as dancing, juggling, hand balancing, yodeling, etc.

**Q: The book is divided into chapters by year. Why did you organize this way?**

**A:** While compiling the images for the book, I realized they were shot and organized in a chronological fashion. I thought it would be a good method for allowing the viewer to see who performed in what year and at what venue.

**Q: How many images did you originally select for the book?**

**A:** From 2010 through 2020 I archived many thousands of images shot at various venues. I edited the images year by year, choosing the ones I thought best represented that year and the performers. I worked with an editor after I narrowed it down to 500. We selected the most interesting photographs that represented my style and the performers'.

**Q: You feature four essays in the book. How did you select these authors to write the essays?**

**A:** I have known and photographed Pat Oleszko, Paul Zaloom, Mike Smith, and John Towsen for many years. I wanted a variety of voices to be represented in this volume. It seemed like a fun idea to include a punster/performance artist, plastic puppeteer, performance artist and clown PhD teacher. All of them wrote wonderful essays to complement the photographs.

**Q: In your “About” section, you mention that you worked with highwire artist Philippe Petit. What was your role in his work?**

**A:** I first met Philippe when he came to the U.S. from Paris. He wanted to explore skyscrapers, and find where he might be able to rig a wire. He street juggled in front of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Street library right after he arrived, and we talked about my participation in his upcoming ideas.

He worked on the planning stages of the World Trade Center walk for over a year. Whenever he would come to New York, we would meet and illegally visit the top of the towers. They were still under construction at that time. Eventually we hired a helicopter, and I photographed the building from the air. Then, several months later, he walked the wire between the towers. It was an amazing feat!

**Q: In the book you have captured many different kinds of performers. Why?**

**A:** I like “variety arts.” They call it that because there is such a wide variety of performers and disciplines. It is always a treat to photograph someone performing an act that is different than anything I have seen before. Of course, that is difficult now, since I have seen so many acts in the past forty-plus years!

**Q: Why did you make this book?**

**A:** I always enjoyed looking at photographs of performers from the past. Thinking about what their act was like, what did they do, how did the audience enjoy them? When I was thinking about the book, I decided to add the “performer index” to the list of photographs. Since the images are full pages in many instances, I put the performers’ comments in the back with corresponding page numbers. I wasn’t expecting that upon completion of the book the world would be shaken by the pandemic. But now the reader can see what performances happened before the shutdown. I hope the viewer enjoys looking at the photographs of these wonderful performers, and reads about them in the index. If they happen to be inspired to go see them in person, that would be wonderful.

# ESSAY EXCERPTS

“The artist speaks with a voice that is no greater than his or her own experience and knowledge. It is a singular voice, but one that must grow richer, that must reflect more of the complexity of the world we live in, if it is not to be a hollow voice.”

**John Towsen, “With Your Brains and My Body: The Future Imperfect of Physical Theatre”**

“Inspiration is multifarious and perverse, propelled by the quizzical crawl of absurdity and relentless nudge of the norm.”

**Pat Oleszko, “Fool Disclosure”**

“I studied tap dancing with a bunch of children until I couldn’t stand the competition. I bought a baton to twirl, but had no room to throw it. Since I had no skills and could not master the simplest accent, I figured why not look to my arty roots, and come up with a ‘concept.’”

**Mike Smith, “What’s My Connection to Jim”**

“For me, as a comic performer, puppetry is all about gags, gags, gags. Puppetry is movement, dance, transformations, fights, gestures, and odd juxtaposition of scale and type and form. It’s not much so about words, which are better left to actors.”

**Paul Zaloom, “We Puppeteers”**

# AUTHOR BIO

After a youth spent delivering groceries and founding *Twilight Zone* and *One Step Beyond* fan clubs, Jim R. Moore attended NYU Film School and the School of Visual Arts. He began his career as a professional photographer for the rock 'n' roll magazines *Zygote* and *Crawdaddy*, where his subjects included the Grateful Dead, Jethro Tull, Rod Stewart, and the Rolling Stones. During this time, he also captured now-iconic images for Philippe Petit's World Trade Center high-wire walk, and continued his own work as a street performer. This led to his subsequent career as a passionate and prolific documenter of "the eccentric performing arts."



Photo by Kirk Marsh

He has photographed the Movement Theater Mime Clown Festival in Philadelphia, Circus Flora in St. Louis, the Big Apple Circus in New York, Cirque d'Hiver in Paris, and the Festival of Fools in Burlington, Vermont; and served as photographer in residence for The American Mime Theatre, 1975-2011. His photography has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Village Voice*, *Time Out*, *Dance Magazine*, and in the books *Acrobats of the Soul* (Ron Jenkins, 1988), *Free to Act* (Mira Felner, 1990), *Le Mime Marcel Marceau* (Marcel Marceau, 1996), *To Reach the Clouds* (Philippe Petit, 2002), *Puppetry: A World History* (Eileen Blumenthal, 2005), *On the High Wire* (Philippe Petit, 2019), and *Out of the Shadows: The Henson Festivals and Their Impact on Contemporary Puppet Theater* (Leslee Asch, 2020). His work has been exhibited at Lincoln Center, the University of Ohio, Festival of Fools, the Ohio Theatre, and the Cornelia Street Gallery; and appears in the permanent collections of the New York Public Library at Lincoln Center, Yale Theatre Library, Harvard Theatre Library, and the Smithsonian Institution. He is the winner of the 2012 Coney Island Film Festival Award for the short silent film *The Ridiculous Romantic*, and the 2013 DeWitt Stern Local Hero Award from the Alliance of Resident Theatres.

In 2009, he launched the website Vaudevisuals ([vaudevisuals.com](http://vaudevisuals.com)), with the purpose of documenting and celebrating "the eccentric performing arts." Many of the photographs featured in this book originally appeared on Vaudevisuals. Updated regularly, the site also contains a vast number of video interviews conducted with performing artists. In 2019, he founded the independent imprint Vaudevisuals Press, which has published *A Clown in Our Town: A Tribute to Rob Torres* and *Rose's Royal Midgets and Other Little People of Vaudeville*.

John Towsen, author of *Clowns: A Panoramic History*, wrote in his introduction to



Jim's 2011 exhibit "The Clown UnMasked": "Like all fine photographers, Jim has more than just a keen eye and polished technique. He has an instinctual feel for his subjects, and, above all, their total trust."

Jim lives in Brooklyn with his wife, the dancer, fiddle player, and mom, Deborah Monlux.

# LIST OF PERFORMERS

*featured in the book's photographs*

- Aiken, David 99  
Allison, Chris 261  
Amazing Amy 90  
Anderson, Laura 267  
Animals Performance Group 136  
Arcade, Penny 168  
Augustine, Kevin 144, 153  
Avner the Eccentric 110
- Bachrach, Ilan 156-157  
Bass, Beth Dodye 255  
Beller, Jonathan 92-93  
Berg, Laurie 124  
Beriss, Karen 217  
Bernard, Becca 86  
Bisker, Ellia 142  
Bixby, Nick 77  
Blackwell, Becca 70, 226  
Blood, Mary Flores 275  
Bloom, Seth 114  
Blue, Sean 133  
Bongar, Michael 179  
Bonjo, Cassidy Rose 249  
Bothe, Henrik 98  
Bowers, Bill 256  
Boyce, Alexander 252  
Brockington, Ashley 39  
Brugman, Muriel 87  
Burch, Laura Gwendolyn 246-247  
Burgess, Hovey 214  
Burns, Kelly Anne 116-117  
Butch, Angela Buccinni 250
- Cadabra, Albert 272  
Calonge, Nikki 136  
Cameron, Jibz 70  
Cardone 248  
Carneiro, Claudio 52-53  
Carr, Kevin C. 36, 59  
Castle, Sir Richard 271  
Chadsey, Gillian 148  
Chap, Sabrina 173  
Chaplain, Hilary 177  
Chapman, Clay McLeod 135  
Christensen, Michael 223  
Chuma, Yoshiko 180  
Cione', Tina 138  
Conti, Nina 89  
Corn Mo 245  
Cornell, Kendall 73  
Crabtree, Audrey 131  
Crago, Darien 221  
Cremmin, Diamond Dave 50  
Crutchley, Jeremy 126  
Cunningham, Jon 245
- D'Eustachio, Jacob 107  
Damm, Jan 210  
Dancenoise 147
- Darkly, Dandy 176  
Davis, Eric 45, 64-65  
Davis, Michael 174  
de Valette, Patrick 55, 191  
DeAngelis, Mike 136  
Delfini, Angela 205  
Dennis, Denni 141  
DeSanto, Greg 60  
Diamond, Noah 192  
Dobson, Mike 66  
Domenico, Joel 196  
Donnelly, Helen 204  
Drew the Dramatic Fool 194  
Dubin, Greg 213  
Dunn, Jay 218-219  
Dyer, Eric 156-157
- Edwards, Jango 91  
Eisenberg, Avner 110  
Ellis, Dikki 41  
Engel, David 34  
Engelke, Sarah Matilda 85  
Erickson, Rob 67
- Faye, Tammy 149  
Ferguson, James (Tigger!) 72  
Ferver, Jack 171  
Fraser, Mat 229  
Fruchter, Ora 120
- Gardner, Danny 66, 143, 175  
Gelsone, Christina 115  
Gerstacov, Adam 111  
Gesmundo, Naomi Brenkman 230  
Gesmundo, Ottavio 230  
Gillette, Scott Halvorsen 156-157  
Gindick, Mark 238  
Godwin, James 88, 96  
Gordon, Ain 40  
Gordon, Amy 52-53  
Grabell, Scott 150  
Great Dubini, The 213  
Great Fredini, The 201  
Green, Richard Kent 116-117  
Greenberg, Bob 243  
Grimaldi, John 172
- Habacker, James 270  
Hall, Ward 134, 160  
Hanson, Jarod 92-93  
Harder, Jennifer 118  
Heroy, Glen 119, 125, 198  
Hess, Jeff 100  
Hey-Ya Brothers 47  
Hickman, Shereen 221  
Hill, Murray 74  
Hoffbauer, Patricia 240  
Holsopple, Ryan 156-157  
Holtzclaw, Matthew 262
- Honeywell, Robert 188  
Hutter, Gardi 30
- Iobst, Anne 147  
Iodice, Angelo 264  
Iwasa, Mariko 184
- James, Emily 141  
Jane, Melody 192  
Jaster, Mark 108  
Jelly Boy the Clown 200  
Jeske, Joel 47, 66, 175  
Jones, Alexis 146
- Kahl, Fred 201  
Kallai, Yoni 250  
Kallo Collective 140  
Kallo, Jenni 140  
Kaplan, David 233  
Kaplan, Jonathan 82  
Karas, Michael 187  
Kaufman, Kaitlin 237  
Kaufmann, Deborah 75  
Keckler, Joseph 127  
Keppel, Woody 98  
Klein, Kevin 146  
Knoblock, Jalyn 92-93  
Kron, Lisa 84  
Kubínek, Tomáš 212  
Kuchler, Adam 238  
Kurppa, Sampo 140
- LaGreca, Jeff 48-49  
Lampert, Lorraine 38  
Layton, Charley 119  
Le Gateau Chocolat 57  
Lee, Raymond 146  
LeoNimm, Spark 164, 218-219  
Leslie, David 155  
Levi, Amir 146  
Levine, Nina 32-33  
Liberata, Tania 92-93  
Lil' Miss Lixx 214  
Lohse, Deborah 228  
Lok, Rob 61  
Loy, Cornelius 113  
Lueck, Christopher 47, 260  
Lugo, Nelson 231
- Magic Brian 234  
Mandell, Sabrina 108  
Manley, Chris 236  
Marawa 151  
Markey, Erin 70, 208  
Marsh, Kirk 246-247  
Martin, Amber 257  
Martos, Ambrose 105  
Matlock, Michelle 226  
May, Salley 122
- McBeth, Brent 66, 175  
McCracken, Holly 32-33  
McDaniel, Chris 161  
Mejias, Jason 259  
Miclon Brothers 227  
Mikos, Mike 136  
Miller, Jennifer 37, 70  
Miss Ekaterina 103  
Mr. and Mrs. G 230  
Mitchell, Jenny Lee 182  
Mitler, Matt 46  
Moeller, Harold 130  
Monckton, Thom 140  
Monday, Dick 216  
Monkey Do 232  
Monroe, Marcus 159  
Monseu, Stephanie 239  
Mooky 152  
Morgan, Matthew 158  
Motwani, Pratik 232  
Mozgala, Gregg 128  
Mullét, Jean-Paul 206  
Munn, Elizabeth 104  
Munoz, Gabriela 106  
Murray, Ryan Shinji 132  
Murrin, Tom 94  
Muz, Julie Atlas 80, 229
- Nelson, Keith 51, 154  
Newman, Harley 162-163  
Nock, Bello 186  
Nosan, Jonathan 58
- Okabayashi, Jon 156-157  
Oleszko, Pat 220
- Pace, Gustavo 185  
Paraiso, Nicky 235  
Paris the Hip Hop Juggler 215  
Passer, Daniel 54  
Pauli, Matthew 217  
Pavlata, Sacha 42  
Peck, James 232  
Penelope the Clown 237  
Pereda, Inda 236  
Perez, Aldo 193  
Peters, Sarah 232  
Petersen, Kyle 101  
Pisoni, Lawrence 35  
Potter, Rich 195, 217  
Propane, Betsy 242
- Quinton, Everett 254
- Radiohole 156-157  
RealMan, Adam 62, 162-163  
Red Bastard 45, 64-65  
Ren Lay, Judith 269  
Reno 44

Rev. Billy 69  
Reynolds, Timony McCown 68  
Rhodes, Carla 178  
Richardson, Drew 194  
Richter, Michael 47  
Riley, Tiffany 56  
Rivera, Dina Rose 188  
Rivera, Mike Smith 116-117  
Robbins, Todd 129  
Romaine, Jenny 70  
Roper, Matt 189, 192  
Rosado Jr., Sr. Pedro Juan 76  
Rozzi, Chris 64-65

Watson, Shelly 102  
Wau Wau Sisters 31  
Weaver, Lois 83  
Weber, Justin 265  
West, Tyler 258  
Wilfredo 189  
Wilson, Wayne 191  
Wolf, Buck 162-163  
Wright, Rae C. 211

Zaloom, Paul 97  
Zero Boy 64-65, 166  
Zigun, Dick D. 134

S.D., Trav 242  
Samelson, Peter 202  
Sapora, Andy 164  
Scheer, Stoph 120  
Schott, Gregory G. 92-93  
Schultz, Billy 139  
Scobie, Bradford 271  
Scotty the Blue Bunny 150  
Seal, Jeff 236  
Seid, Lori E. 81  
Sexton, Lucy 147  
Shanks, Armitage 43  
Shapiro, Summer 222  
Shaw, Peggy 83  
Shaw, Will 207  
Shelden, Seth 192  
Shirey, Sxip 268  
Shoshinz, Yanomi 121  
Sikoryak, R. 123  
Silver, AJ 264  
Sincerely Yours 112  
Sirugo, Carol Lee 82  
Slaw, Jen 169  
Smith, Jonathan M. 243  
Solomon, Tanya 190  
Somers, Chloe 225  
Steingraeber, Ellie 266  
Straus, Peter Daniel 59

Talen, Billy 69  
Taylor, James 251  
Thomson, David Hamilton 240  
Those in the Nose 32-33  
Tigger! 72  
Torkova, 253  
Torres, Rob 71  
Towsen, Nat 137  
Trautman, Michael 203  
Tropicana, Carmelita 170  
Troyano, Alina 170  
TruDee 228  
Truscott, Adrienne 263  
Turner, Jim 165  
Tuths, Evelyn 32-33  
Tweedy 34

Vath, Jenne 255  
Velvet Crayon 199  
Venardos, Kevin 244

Wall, Thom 183  
Walters, Matt 192  
Ward, Carlton 70

# RESOURCES

Jim R. Moore's blog: [vaudevisuals.com](http://vaudevisuals.com)

Jim R. Moore on Wikipedia: [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jim\\_Moore\\_\(photographer\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jim_Moore_(photographer))

Jim R. Moore on Instagram: [@jimrmoore\\_eccentric](https://www.instagram.com/jimrmoore_eccentric)

Jim R. Moore on Twitter: [@vaudevisuals](https://twitter.com/vaudevisuals)

# CONTACT

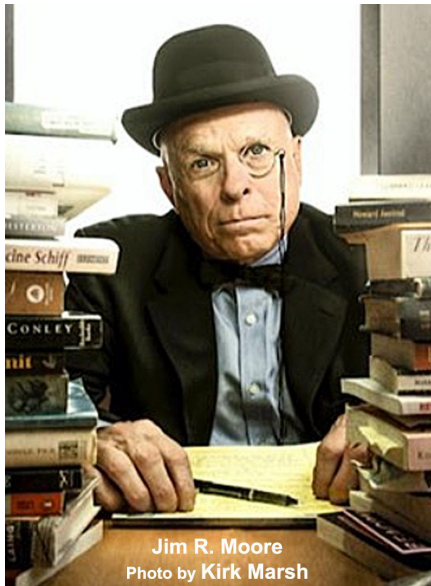
To schedule an interview or request a digital gallery of *Don't Miss This!*, please contact Deborah Monlux: [info@vypress.com](mailto:info@vypress.com).



## BWW Interview: *Don't Miss This!* Photographer Jim R. Moore Chronicles a Decade of Eccentric Performing Arts

Jim R. Moore turned his love of the eccentric performing arts into a photographic collection in *Don't Miss This! A Decade of Eccentric Performing Arts*, due out February 1

A former street performer in New York City, Jim R. Moore turned his love of the eccentric performing arts into a photographic collection, *Don't Miss This! A Decade of Eccentric Performing Arts*, due out February 1, 2022. Got to chat with Jim on his photographic expertise and experience shooting his fellow eccentric performing artists.



Jim R. Moore  
Photo by Kirk Marsh

**Thank you for taking the time for this interview, Jim! With millions of photos you've taken, what parameters did you put on yourself in choosing the images for *Don't Miss This*?**

Choosing the photographs was very difficult. I had to narrow the number of images from quite a few thousand to about 500 first. I had many that I really liked but had to cut due to the edit.

**Your chapter titles seem very straight forward, with your ten chapters starting with year 2010 and progressing through year 2019. Chronological order must have been one of the easier methods of**

**categorizing your images. What were your sub-categories from there?**

I wanted to assure that I had a wide category of 'eccentric' performers in the book, so I selected images that fell into the categories I shot. Clown, Variety, Performance art, Burlesque, Circus, theater.

**How did you decide to include only four essays from associates in the front of your book?**

I had these people in mind for the essays since I love their work and they express themselves very well on the written page.

**What is your favorite shot in the book?**

That is an impossible question to answer since I really love all the shots in the book!

**Were there venues you frequented that presented these eccentric performers you shot?**

The venues that produce shows I photograph are many. The performers I photograph sometimes work in different venues depending on the type of show they are in.

**Are any of these venues still around today?**

All of the venues featured in the book are quite active today as they were ten years ago when I began shooting for the book.

**Any of the eccentric performers you shot in 2010 still active in their performing?**

All of them are still performing today!

**Were earlier shots taken of performing friends?**

I photographed many of my peers when I was performing and shooting.

**Did you have an opening spiel in**



Four Clowns  
Photo by Jim R. Moore

**approaching artists to shoot that you weren't friends with?**

Yes! Since my blog Vaudevisuals is about 14 years old now, I would refer them to visit the blog and see what I had done with previous performers. Mostly shot their shows and sometimes did a video interview.

**How many friends did you shoot for free before getting paid for your photographic talents?**

I have been photographing performers for over 40 years. So, yes, I did many in the early days for free.

**You started photographing performing artists in 1970s. Do you remember the camera you were using then?**

I have been through many cameras and types. Film and now digital. The early photographs I shot with a Nikon F camera or FTN. I had five different lenses for that camera - 20mm, 35mm, 55mm Macro, 85mm and 150mm. They all were used extensively during that time.



Cornelius Loy  
Photo by Jim R. Moore

This article originally appeared on the BroadwayWorld website:

<https://www.broadwayworld.com/los-angeles/article/BWW-Interview-Dont-Miss-This-Photographer-Jim-R-Moore-Chronicles-A-Decade-of-Eccentric-Performing-Arts-20220110>



Miss Ekaterina  
Photo by Jim R. Moore

**Did you “upgrade” your photographic equipment as newer models came along?**

I didn't start shooting digitally till late in the game. I was so use to my method with film. The film I used and the developer I used to make a picture look a certain way. I wasn't sure I could duplicate that look with digital since I wasn't knowledgeable of what was possible.

**What camera do you use today?**

I have three cameras that I use today - Sony A7c, Sony RX100M7 and a Fuji X100T for street shooting.

**How many years of negatives do you have archived?**

My performance negatives begin in 1970 and go through 1997. I am not sure how many negatives/slides I have in my archives, but it must be in the thousands.

**Are your earlier photos converted to a digital archive?**

I scan the earlier work when I need them in a digital form. I have a great Nikon Coolscan 9000 that scans many of the formats I shot.

**As a professional photographer for decades, what is your thought of smartphone photography?**

The cell phone has become an amazing camera. Every model of any phone that comes out always seems to be upgrading the camera features more than the

phone features. They are great tools, but I still like shooting with a camera better.

**Was shooting for *Crawdaddy!* magazine your first professional photo gig?**

I shot for a rock magazine called *Zygote* which preceded *Crawdaddy!* by a few years. One of the shows I photographed was John McLaughlin and the Mahavishnu Orchestra in Central Park. That concert was recorded and is available on CD. Amazing show!

**Who was the first big-name celebrity you shot?**

Celebrity? Well, I went on tour with Jethro Tull (Ian Anderson) for a few weeks during his big days of Rock & Roll. I am really not a “celeb” photographer.

**What was your most challenging celebrity shoot that resulted with shots beyond your wildest dreams?**

I photographed George Carl in my studio. He was one of the world's funniest physical comedians. He appeared on the Johnny Carson show many times. But not known to the public in general. The studio shoot was so much fun and the photographs of him came out so wonderful since he was just damn funny all the time.

**You studied mime, became a street performer, and founded Hudson Street Studio in the late 1970s to promote variety artists. Do you still have the itch to perform?**

Performing was such a high. Feeling the admiration from the audience is so special and really can't be replaced with anything else. So... YES. I miss that but in order to earn that, you must spend hours perfecting your craft. I realized I enjoyed shooting more than rehearsals.

**What cosmic forces first brought you and Philippe Petit to become roommates and eventually friends?**

I became friends with Philippe when he first set foot in New York City. He performed on the plaza of the 42nd Street Library early in his arrival in New York. I recommended that location to him since I had performed on the steps and knew it would be a good spot for his “circle.” After his first show in New York City, we went and had a lunch and talked about his idea about putting a

wire in New York City. I was game to help him document locations and so began our working friendship which today is a decade-long friendship. He shared my loft in Tribeca for a few years after his engagement with the Ringling Bros. Circus ended.

**Was your chest bursting with pride when *Man On Wire* won the Best Documentary Oscar in 2009?**

Yes indeed! Many of my photographs and I appeared in the film, and it is so well crafted. The editing is wonderful. The story is wild!

**What's in the near future for Jim R. Moore?**

I continue to photograph the world and my passion for theater is now being extended into my new publishing venture Vaudevisuals Press. I have a few books coming to me from wonderfully odd performers and a tribute to my good friend magician Jeff Sheridan. Work is good if you enjoy what you are working at, and I do!

**Thank you again, Jim! I look forward to picking up a hard copy of *Don't Miss This!* when it becomes available for presale February 1st.**

To order a presale copy of *Don't Miss This! A Decade of Eccentric Performing Arts*, beginning February 1st, visit [vvpress.com](http://vvpress.com). The book will then be available through all standard book sellers online and in stores beginning May 2022.



Jason Mejias  
Photo by  
Jim R. Moore