

INSIDE OUTSIDER GALLERY

113 N. KANSAS AVE. FRANKFORT, KANSAS

Spessi *Horse with No Name*

September 2015

Inside Outsider Gallery, Frankfort, KS

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Spessi

Horse With No Name

INSIDE OUTSIDER GALLERY

113 N. KANSAS AVE. FRANKFORT, KANSAS

Opening Reception:

6-9pm Saturday

September 12th

BIKERS WELCOME!



For more information see www.insideoutsidergallery.com or contact meatchunk.enterprises.inc@gmail.com

PRESS RELEASE:

Inside Outsider Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition of photographs by Icelandic photographer, Spessi, from his series *Horse with No Name*. It will be a “coming home/reunion” of sorts, with the photos being on display in the area they were shot, with the people and camaraderie documented in the series. Works in this exhibition were originally shown in 2013 at the Reykjavík Museum of Photography in Iceland.

From the Reykjavík Museum of Photography (<http://www.ljosmyndasafnreykjavikur.is>):

“The exhibition *A Horse with No Name* comprises portraits of bikers taken by photographer Spessi on a tour of the USA in 2011–2012.

The objective of the portraits is to make a record of the unique culture of the biking world, and provide insight into it. The project may thus be seen as an “ethnological” study of this “tribe,” with the aim of gaining an enhanced understanding of the origins of biker culture. Spessi traveled partly by motorbike himself, and also by truck. In addition to Kansas – where he lived for a year – he kept mainly to Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana – the poorest states in the Union.

The origins of biker culture as such can be traced back to an event on Independence Day, 4 July 1947, when a huge number of bikers gathered together in the small town of Hollister, California. Many were veterans of World War II who had fallen through the cracks in society. Terrified Hollister locals called in the police, and back-up was requested from other police forces. That was the first occasion on which this new social group – bikers – hit the headlines. The Marlon Brando film *The Wild One* (1953) was inspired by the events at Hollister.

While the media spotlight tends to fall on organized groups, they are just one part of a much larger culture of ordinary working-class Americans – often outsiders – who see their dreams of independence and freedom embodied in the motorbike. *A Horse with No Name* portrays those people, their environment, their life and their community.

Spessi comments: “The show is, in a sense, a journal of my travels in their company, about the friends I made, and everything they’ve shown me and taught me, by allowing me the opportunity to peek into that separate, and sometimes closed, world.”

Spessi is now working on a documentary film of the same name about biker culture, along with film maker Bergsteinn Björgúlfsson, which will show us behind the scenes and give us an impression of the atmosphere of the photography sessions.

Spessi is one of Iceland’s best-known photographers. What sets him apart is his fresh and original approach to his subjects, which range from advertising photography to portraits and art photography. His work has, for instance, been published to illustrate editorials in such major newspapers as the New York Times and Politiken. His photographic exhibitions have generally attracted great attention, as have his books of photographs.

Spessi has also been a diligent educator in photography, for instance as a lecturer at the Iceland Academy of Arts, and as a visiting tutor at the School of Photography.

Spessi studied photography at AKI – Academie voor Beeldende Kunst in the Netherlands, and he has held exhibitions both in Iceland and abroad since 1996.”

Please join Inside Outsider Gallery for an opening reception on Saturday, September 12th from 6-9pm in Frankfort, Kansas. The work will be available for viewing by appointment for the remainder of September.

For more information see www.insideoutsidergallery.com or contact meatchunk.enterprises.inc@gmail.com.

For more information on Spessi, see www.spessi.com.

About Inside Outsider Gallery:

The mission of Inside Outsider Gallery is to showcase contemporary art and programming without the high pressure of sales or the limitations associated with a typical commercial gallery. The gallery will be a space that engages, challenges, and promotes discourse and conversation in the community. By showing inventive cutting-edge work, the gallery will become a dynamic part of the Kansas art scene, educating and exposing the community to contemporary trends and concerns.

Inside Outsider Gallery will be a fluid space that meets the needs of artists of many disciplines and allows the installation and presentation to become an integral part of the creative process. Inside Outsider Gallery will provide the art viewing public with a variety of art experiences and community outreach. The gallery will have a modest 25% commission rate to keep as much profit in the hands of the artists involved with the projects.

By working closely with local individuals, organizations, universities, and institutions, Inside Outsider Gallery will support continued professional growth of artists and help build a community and culture that supports and sustains contemporary art in Kansas.

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SPESSI *HORSE WITH NO NAME*

OPENING RECEPTION: SATURDAY SEPT. 12 6-9PM

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INSIDE OUTSIDER GALLERY
113 N. KANSAS AVE. FRANKFORT, KANSAS







RUFF



NECKS



PRIVATE PROPERTY

917 1/2

HOURS
WED - FRIDAY
10 PM - 2 AM
SAT - SUNDAY
10 AM - 2 AM

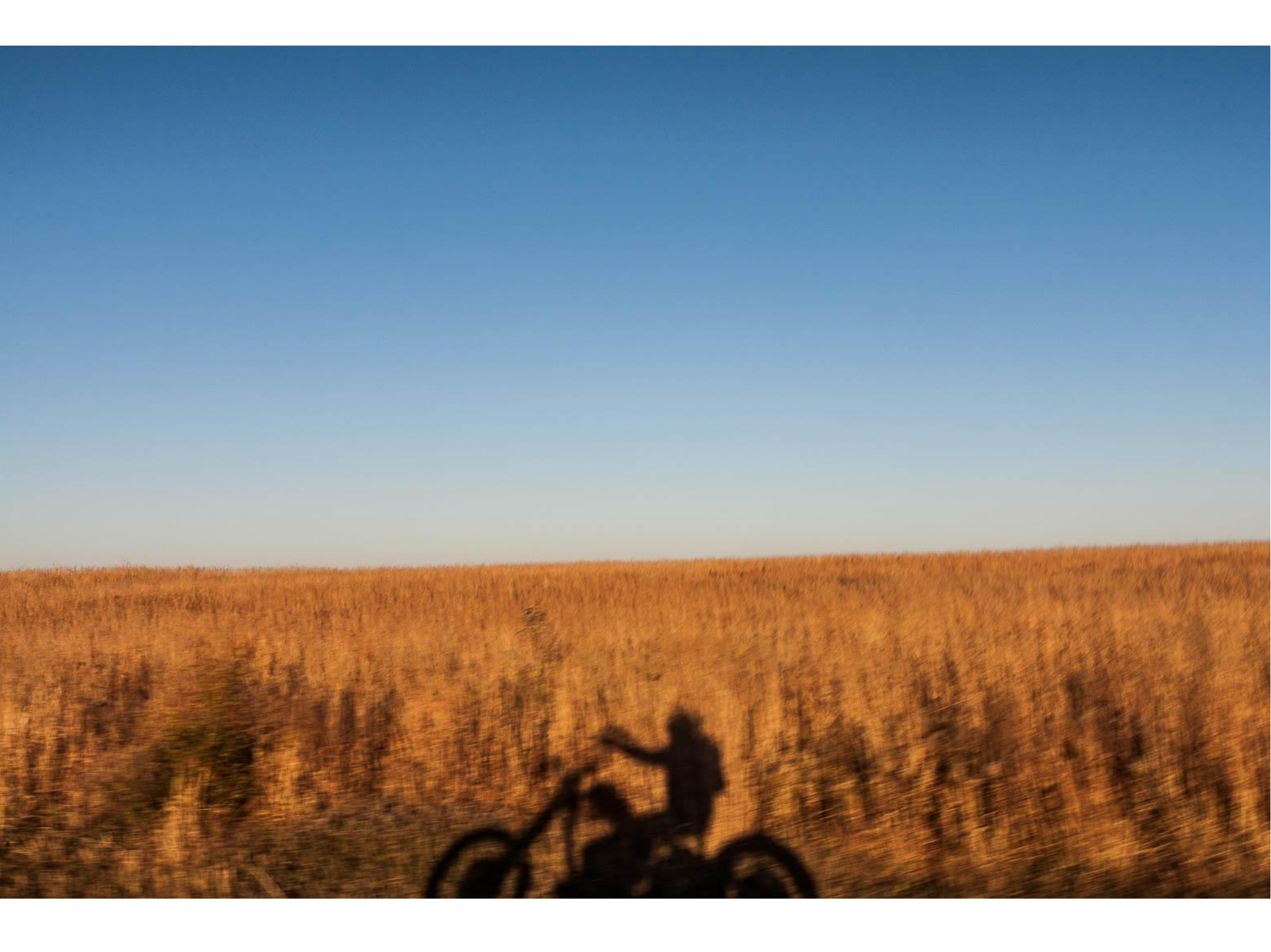
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