

## PRESS RELEASE

Providence, RI

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### STUDIO-GALLERY Z

(Located on Historic Federal Hill)

259 Atwells Avenue

Providence, Rhode Island 02903

401-454-8844

**At GALLERY Z - *Rome 1970s*, by Stephan Brigidi, photographer - through Sunday, June 30th, 2019. Opening Reception & Book Release & Signing, Thursday, June 20th, 2019, 5-9PM.** Hardcover first edition of 112 pages. 57 images.

Gallery Z is devoting the month of June to works from local, internationally known and world-collected artist-photographer, Stephan Brigidi's latest book, *Rome 1970s*. Stephan Brigidi will be signing this latest book at Gallery Z during his show's opening reception on **Thursday, June 20th, Gallery Night, from 5-9 P.M.** The public is welcome.

In the artist/author's own words, "*It was a remarkable time to witness first hand a period of turbulence and transition in Italian culture. It was a period, which the former laissez-faire practice could no longer work as a system. For the Italian people the spirit la dolce vita was over. It ended in 1978.*" Former Prime Minister Aldo Moro was murdered; the Red Brigades terrorist group held the country hostage. Pope Paul VI's successor, John Paul I died after 33 days, a suspected assassination. By a master of portraiture, these close-ups in the streets of Rome during the turbulent 70s convey the transformation of an old-world culture to a modern-day Italy.

*- "To be Italian was to be resourceful and make do as one had to. This I knew well, but I too, was shaken by the external events on the streets. The Italian world was changing, a bit out of control. Life would go on and without a map. Here are my prints."* - Stephan Brigidi

Stephan Brigidi, local artist and teacher of Photography and Aesthetics, has worked in Italy over forty years. In 1977-78 he received a Fulbright-Hays fellowship to study there; numerous grants and fellowships ensued, including from the National Endowment for the Arts and RI State Council on the Arts. He has an MFA in Photography & Film from RI School of Design, 1976, studying with Harry Callahan and Aaron Siskind, and a BA in Fine Arts and History from Providence College, 1973. He has published five books of photographs, including three others on Italy: *Angels of Pompeii* with poet Robert Bly, *Afraid of the Dark: A Venetian Story*, and *The Fire of Rome. Remarkable People: A Rhode Island Family Album*, was published in 1995. An architectural preservationist, Brigidi has served on numerous civic, environmental, civil libertarian and cultural institutions in Bristol and Newport, RI, and statewide. His works are in major museums and collections throughout the U.S., Rome and Paris.

Gallery Z represents over four hundred renowned fine artists, fifty Rhode Island and regional, one hundred fifty national and two hundred international. A gift shop connected to the main gallery's fine art, glass and pottery offers handmade jewelry by local artists, international handicrafts, small woven wool rugs, fun jewelry, art postcards, RI-themed mementoes and other distinctive finds. A new online shop enables viewing and purchasing the art if unable to come into the gallery.

Gallery Z hosts a reception for the current exhibit every third Thursday of the month, twelve months a year, on Gallery Night Providence. ALL RECEPTIONS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. Gallery Z is a member of the Federal Hill Commerce Association, Providence/Warwick Convention & Visitors Bureau and Gallery Night Providence. Gallery Z is a tax-free zone. **Hours: Thurs-Sat 12-8pm, Sun. 12-6pm and by appt. or chance.**

by Ellen Goodlin

**Studio-Gallery Z, LLC**

**Est. January 2001, celebrating 19 years**

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**(401) 454-8844**

**[www.galleryzprov.com](http://www.galleryzprov.com)**