



For Immediate Release
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Official Pin, Poster and Music Lineup Released

Artist Tony Bernard depicts an “outdoor dance hall” in 2016 artwork.

Lafayette, LA, Sept. 13, 2016 - Festivals Acadiens et Créoles' official artwork and music lineup was unveiled Friday, Sept. 9, during an event at the Paul and Lulu Hilliard University Art Museum's A. Hays Town Home. The event also served as an opening reception for the “Cajun Dance Halls and Zydeco Clubs” exhibit curated by photographer Philip Gould and John “Pudd” Sharp of The Louisiana Dancehalls Project.

Official artist Tony Bernard was on hand to help unveil his original poster and pin. The 2016 poster depicts an outdoor dance hall scene with dancers under Bernard's signature oak tree and also lists the names of local clubs and dance halls on a banner. This year, Festivals is honoring the cultural and social importance of South Louisiana's Cajun dance halls and Zydeco clubs — past and present. Historically serving as community centers, our local dance hall context has continued to evolve and today ranges from jam sessions to large-scale festivals.

For the pin, Bernard chose to use a silhouette of dancers, along with the Cajun and Creole flags. Pins and posters are currently on sale at www.festivalsacadiens.com for \$10 and \$25 respectively and will be available on-site at Girard Park during Festivals weekend Oct. 14-16.

On Sept. 9 at 5 p.m., the full music lineup for 2016 also went live at www.festivalsacadiens.com. Representing a who's who in Cajun and Zydeco music, the lineup encompasses six different venues with more than 60 bands and 70 hours of music. Festivals is also expanding its culinary offerings this year with nine cooking demonstrations on Saturday and Sunday in the Culture Sur La Table tent, programmed by Chef Instructor at Louisiana Culinary Institute Colt Patin.

As Festivals-goers experience an outdoor dance hall under the oaks at Girard Park, they can also learn about the local dance halls and Zydeco clubs of days gone by. On Saturday at Scène Atelier, Philip Gould and Herman Fuselier, authors of new book *Ghosts of Good Times*, along with Sharp and musician Ray Abshire, will discuss the dance hall in a talk moderated by Dr. Barry Ancelet.

The A. Hays Town exhibit will be up through Festivals weekend, and an Oct. 13 symposium at Vermilionville will offer more discussion and panels on “Cajun Dance Halls & Zydeco Clubs: Then & Now.” In addition, Festivals will present the world premiere of documentary film “First Cousins” at Angelle Hall the evening of Oct. 13. The film honors the fascinating musical heritage and enduring relationship of Cajuns and Creoles.

Registration for the symposium and tickets to the film are available via Eventbrite.

Keep up with more Festivals news by following Festivals Acadiens et Créoles on Facebook at www.facebook.com/festivalacadiens/ or Twitter and Instagram @festsacadiens. More information on official artist Tony Bernard can be found at www.festivalsacadiens.com/info/featured-artist.html.

Festivals Acadiens et Créoles presented by Capital One can trace its roots back to the first Tribute to Cajun Music Festival organized by CODOFIL in 1974. Festivals was officially established in 1977 with components of music, food and crafts. Since then, it has grown into a multi-day event taking place during the second full weekend of October each year in Lafayette, La. Festivals operates as a nonprofit corporation and is run by a community board and volunteers.