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845**SCENE**

'Beyond Iconic' looks at life of late Woodstock resident Stock

Photographer captured American life

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The "iconic" image of James Dean in Times Square, James Dean used with permission from James Dean Inc. www.jamesdean.com.

Dennis Stock/Magnum Photos

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By Timothy Malcolm

Times Herald-Record

Published: 2:00 AM - 04/19/13

When Hanna Sawka was younger, her father and mother — Jan and Hanna — took in a movie with their friend Dennis at the Rosendale Theatre. The movie was a biography about Leonard Cohen.

"Everyone was having a discussion about that movie," said the young Hanna Sawka. "My mom asked Dennis, 'Oh, has anyone ever made a movie about you?""

She had a right to ask. Dennis was Dennis Stock, one of the world's most respected and successful photographers. His black-and-white image of James Dean walking in Times Square remains an iconic piece of Americana. But no, said Stock to mother Sawka, nobody had made a film about the photographer

So daughter Sawka, a filmmaker herself, realized she wanted to make a film about Stock. And so Hanna Sawka's film "Beyond Iconic," a documentary about Stock, will be shown Sunday evening at — of course — the Rosendale Theatre.

"The movie was born there," said Sawka, laughing.

Sawka spoke extensively with Stock, following him through processes and capturing his humor. The entire movie takes place in the Hudson Valley, with much time spent inside Stock's home in Bearsville, a hamlet in the Town of Woodstock. It seemed obvious that Stock held high appreciation for the Hudson Valley.

"He really believed in the ideals of the '60s, of the Woodstock generation," Sawka said. "One of his last shows - the last show he had — was at the Center for Photography (at Woodstock) ... dedicated to the Woodstock generation. It was a statement of lieved in."

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Stock was able to see the film in its final structural form before he died in 2010.

"When he passed away, it really was this incredible motivating thing ... I had such a sense of urgency; I wanted to help those affected by the passing, to heal," Sawka said. "And for myself, too, to be present, to be alive. The film having its life now is a way that people can connect with him."

Sunday's screening will be followed by a traditional Q&A, then a special treat at the Rosendale Cafe: A performance of songs from the film by musicians associated with "Beyond Iconic." Teri Roiger, John Menegon, Tani Tabbal and Rebecca Coupe Franks are scheduled to play the kind of jazzy music layered within the film, a sure nod to Stock's work photographing jazz legends in the 1960s.

"All of them are very amazing," said Sawka of the musicians. "I don't know when we'll have an opportunity there to have a full concert like that again."



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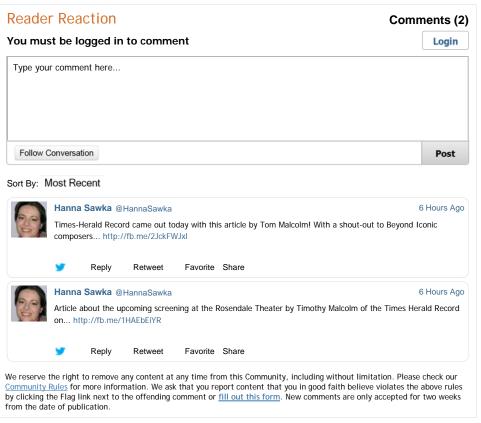
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