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**MICHAEL GRECCO'S "DAYS OF PUNK" to have its first west coast EXHIBITION at MOAH:CEDAR, opening with an RECEPTION on February 4 from 4-6PM**

**Chronicling when PUNK MUSIC first Exploded in the U.S., this touring multi-media exhibition premiered at the international photography fair PHOTO LONDON in 2021**

*"The spirit of Punk was extraordinary. It marked me forever.  
As you look at these images, I hope you also get touched by its infectious freedom."*

– Michael Grecco

LOS ANGELES, CA: **"Days of Punk,"** Los Angeles-based photographer and director **Michael Grecco's** multi-media **solo exhibition** celebrating **punk music** and **culture**, will open on **Saturday, February 4** at **MOAH:CEDAR** in Lancaster, CA with an **artist's reception** from **4-6PM**. The show is **presented in partnership** with the **Lisbon, Portugal-based** production firm **Terra Esplendida**. It will run through **March 19**, and marks the **first time** the "Days of Punk" **museum exhibition** will be on **the west coast** of the United States. The show originally premiered with a special public installation at the international photography fair **Photo London** in 2021, and is currently touring in the U.S. and Europe.

The photographs featured in the exhibition date back to the **late '70s** through **the early '90s**, when **Grecco** documented the **nightclub** and **concert scenes** in **New York** and **Boston** as punk roared into the U.S. He was working as an **Associated Press** photographer, lensman for legendary rock station **WBCN-FM**, and was a self-

described “**club kid**” who had a unique opportunity to embed himself into this revolutionary scene as both a **chronicler** and a **participant**. Grecco **captured for posterity** a riotously outspoken time in pop culture history, with all its raw energy and outrageous antics.

On view at MOAH:CEDAR will be Grecco’s photographs of artists including **Adam Ant, B-52s, Billy Idol, Bow Wow, The Clash, Dead Kennedys, Devo, Human League, Human Sexual Response, Aimee Mann, Siouxsie and the Banshees, Talking Heads, Wendy O. Williams (Plasmatics)**, and more. In addition to the photographs, visitors to the exhibition will experience **soundscapes** specially created for “Days of Punk” in collaboration with Roger Miller and Peter Prescott of the cult band **Mission of Burma**. The **video component** was put together in collaboration with **Jeremy Troy**, and includes **archival footage** that Grecco himself shot during the punk era.

Additionally, **posters, magazines** and other **memorabilia** from back in the day – all from Grecco’s personal collection – will be displayed. These notably include concert posters created by **Dini Lamott**, a photographer, artist, and member of the punk rock band Human Sexual Response, who are featured in both the book and the MOAH:CEDAR exhibition. The museum is also making **special wallpaper** collaging magazine covers and Lamott’s images to hang in the bathrooms and back hallway to harken people back to dates in rock clubs with punk posters and flyers plastering the walls.

MOAH:CEDAR is also presenting **additional programming** in conjunction with “Days of Punk.” On Saturday, **February 25** starting at 6PM, the MOAH:CEDAR **Concert Series** will feature a show with multiple punk rock bands. On Sunday, **March 19** – closing day for “Days of Punk” – the MOAH:CEDAR **Zine Workshop** will focus on creating punk-centric zines, 5-8PM. Michael Grecco will be on site **signing books**.

Grecco’s punk photographs had been dormant in his flat files for decades until his archivist suggested revisiting this **previously unseen body of work** five years ago. After they did a deep dive into the past, their efforts lead to Grecco’s most recent book, the best-selling **Punk, Post Punk, New Wave: Onstage, Backstage, In Your Face, 1978–1991** (Abrams Books, 2020), which introduced these images to the public for the first time. In addition to the 162 photographs, the book features a foreword by **Fred Schneider** of the **B-52s**, an essay by veteran rock journalist **Jim Sullivan**, and Grecco’s **personal anecdotes** from his times hanging out with the musicians he was shooting.

The images then became available as **limited-edition prints** on **Ilford Gold Fibre Gloss** paper to collectors for the first time. Plans soon got underway for the inaugural public show at Photo London, and the now touring gallery and museum exhibition “Days of Punk.”

### **About Michael Grecco (b 1958 -)**

Michael Grecco is an award-winning fine art and [advertising photographer](#) and director based in Los Angeles. He is recognized internationally for his high concept imagery, mastery of lighting, and powerful connections with his subjects in an immense body of work that encompasses fine art, celebrity portraiture, music, commercial, and editorial photography. Born in New York City, Grecco attended college in Boston, where he began his professional career shooting for the Associated Press and covering the music scene for the legendary FM radio station WBCN. Grecco moved to Los Angeles in the late 1980s when he was invited by *People Magazine* to come west to be a [celebrity photographer](#) for them. He has continued to create new work ever since, and his images have also appeared in publications including *Time Magazine*, *Vanity Fair*, *Esquire*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Guardian*, and *Rolling Stone*, among others. He is represented by Atlas Gallery and Iconic Images in London, The Howard Yezerski Gallery in Boston, Modern Rocks Gallery in Austin, TX, and The Photo Gallery, Halmstad, Sweden.

**About [MOAH:CEDAR](#):**

Together with the Museum of Art and History, MOAH:CEDAR is a catalyst for engaging a diverse audience through captivating exhibitions, innovative artists, and dynamic programming. The gallery encourages progressive ideas, which highlight performance, education, and experimental studio practice. The nearly 100 year-old Cedar Center for the Arts is on the National Register of Historic Places and consists of several buildings on the southwest corner of Cedar Avenue and Lancaster Boulevard including the old Sheriff Substation, the Memorial Hall, arts classrooms, MOAH:CEDAR and the 606 building.

**About [Terra Esplendida](#):**

Founded in 2006, Lisbon-based Terra Esplêndida (TE) specializes in cultural projects, and is able to present a diverse portfolio of events and exhibitions. The company is comprised of professionals experienced in fields including production, promotion and management of cultural events, as well as in communication, marketing management, design and advertising. TE works in an integrated manner, and has a dynamic network of contacts and partners including museums, universities, foundations, associations and municipalities, among other public and private entities internationally.

**About [Sharp/NEC](#):**

Sharp NEC Display Solutions of America, Inc. is the leading global provider of professional and commercial visual technology and digital signage solutions, wholly owned by [Sharp NEC Display Solutions, Ltd.](#) Sharp/NEC offers one of the broadest visual solutions portfolios in the industry, innovating in LCD displays, lamp and laser projectors, dvLED, 8K and 5G technology, collaboration solutions, calibration tools, IoT and AI-driven analytics. Sharp/NEC is a trusted name and a total solutions provider with strong ties to industry partners and has a reputation for quality, reliability, and industry-leading customer support with a range of professional service offerings. Serving a wide variety of markets, the organization's expertise spans retail, enterprise, education, entertainment, transportation, energy and utility, and more.

**About [ILFORD](#):**

Established in 1879, ILFORD is one of the oldest photographic brands in the world. With a proud history that spans over 140 years, ILFORD has been synonymous with professional quality photography from traditional analogue film, paper and chemistry to providing best in class professional inkjet paper for today's photo and fine art printers.

**About the Book and Publisher:** [Punk, Post Punk, New Wave: Onstage, Backstage, In Your Face, 1978–1991](#) by Michael Grecco, with introduction by Jim Sullivan; foreword by Fred Schneider Abrams (November 10, 2020 U.S.). Founded in 1949, [ABRAMS Books](#) was the first company in the United States to specialize in publishing art and illustrated books. The company continues to publish critically acclaimed and best-selling works in the areas of art, photography, cooking, craft, comics, interior and garden design, entertainment, fashion, and popular culture.

**About Dini Lamot:**

Dini Lamot has been taking pictures since he was a kid, making movies with his brother using Super 8 film. He started photographing professionally while touring with Human Sexual Response, the 1970s Boston-based new wave and punk rock band. When they broke up, Lamot continued taking pictures in various mediums, including 35mm, Polaroid, three-dimensional, and digital. His work has been exhibited in Boston, New York, and Los Angeles. His experiences in the band and later performances under his drag persona, Musty Chiffon, give Lamot a playful attitude toward taking photos. "I have a rather colorful outlook on photography," says Lamot. He hopes that people enjoy looking at the photo as much as he enjoyed taking it, calling it, "pure animal instinct pleasure."

Additional images: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/s0xbimtvhotkux4/AADyLH9qD2haaAMX7RnKxQroa?dl=0>

<https://daysofpunk.com/>

Short interview with Michael Grecco: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rufffnetf2Q>



Images: © Michael Grecco Productions, Inc.

Top: Poison Ivy (The Cramps), 1980

Bottom: Jello Biafra (Dead Kennedys), 1981; The Clash, 1981