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Contact: Jenny Keegan
225-578.6453 / jenniferkeegan@lsu.edu

The Legacy of Photographer Fonville Winans Gains New Life

LSU Press to Publish Updated Edition of Fonville Winans's Louisiana in September 2016

Baton Rouge—Fonville Winans's Louisiana: Politics, People and Places, first published twenty years ago, continues to offer a singular window into the customs, politics, and places of twentieth-century Louisiana. This dazzling collection of landscapes and portraits, to be reissued in a new edition by LSU Press in September 2016, draws from the lifework of internationally renowned photographer Fonville Winans (1911–1992). The book grants readers the opportunity to see Winans's memorable photographs of the people—from oystermen to beauty queens—and the places—from salt mines to cane fields—that exemplify the Pelican State's enchanting culture and ecology.

Featuring more than 100 black-and-white photographs spanning Winans' career, this book showcases his eye for authenticity as he captures a wide array of subjects, from politicians to ordinary citizens, and exotic locales to classic Louisiana landscapes. Providing commentary and historical background, Cyril E. Vetter contextualizes Winans' popular images of the state's icons, including Huey P. Long and Edwin Edwards; depictions of festival revelers and fishing rodeos; and glimpses into the Creole and Cajun communities that skirted the Gulf Coast. Yet the photographer's most critical legacy, as Vetter contends in a new introduction, may lie in his scenes of swamps and seascapes that either no longer exist or are currently threatened with extinction.

Both nostalgic and refreshing, the perceptive and intriguing images found in *Fonville Winans' Louisiana* feature the state at its best, as a place of diversity and distinction.

Over the past five decades **Cyril E. Vetter's** career has included work in broadcasting, the music industry, publishing, and film. He is the author of *Dirt Dobber Blues: A Novel* and *The Louisiana Houses of A. Hays Town*, and the writer and producer of *Deacon John's Jump Blues*.

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Louisiana Studies / Photography

To request review copies or set up an interview with the author,
please contact Jenny Keegan at jenniferkeegan@lsu.edu.

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