

AMERICAN SWEDISH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

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-- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE --

New Art Installation Explores the Sights and Sounds of a Small Swedish Farm at The American Swedish Historical Museum, January 15 – May 10

The American Swedish Historical Museum in South Philadelphia announces its first special exhibition of 2009: *Ennesbo* by multi-media artist Sandra Binion. Through the use of multichannel video installation, surround sound, photographs, and paintings, Sandra Binion seeks to reveal the “poetry” of the Swedish farming community Ennesbo. The art exhibition, *Ennesbo*, opens on Thursday, January 15 at 6 pm with an artist-led gallery talk beginning 7 pm. Admission to the exhibition opening is free.

Sandra Binion is an American artist who is drawn to rural southern Sweden through family ties. Her great grandmother immigrated to the United States in 1896 from Ennesbo. In the summer of 2007 the artist traveled to Ennesbo to discover and document her personal, familial, and cultural roots. The exhibition *Ennesbo* is the interpretation of Sandra Binion’s experience of the landscapes, rooms, houses and histories at and around the farm her family has worked for the past 300 years.

Ms. Binion’s photographs focus on some of Ennesbo’s simplest and most enigmatic details. Works such as “Moss on Roof” capture peculiarities of delicately shifting light and traces of history. The multi-screen video and surround sound offer an abstracted environment that doesn’t recreate the locale, but rather celebrates it through a fresh, multifaceted perspective. The paintings on paper give us the artist’s most subjective response to Ennesbo, transmuted details of the place through a practiced hand and eye.



***Ennesbo* will be on view at the American Swedish Historical Museum through May 10, 2009. Call 215-389-1776 for more information or visit www.americanswedish.org.** The exhibition *Ennesbo* is part of the ongoing mission of the American Swedish Historical Museum to promote understanding of the contributions of Sweden and the other Scandinavian nations to the American experience. The ASHM also features 12 permanent galleries which promote Swedish and Swedish-American art, culture and history.

This exhibition was made possible at ASHM by gifts from Swea New Jersey and Swea Philadelphia. Additional support comes from The Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and an anonymous foundation.

The American Swedish Historical Museum is located in scenic Franklin Delano Roosevelt Park at 1900 Pattison Avenue in South Philadelphia near the Sports Complex. Free parking is available. ASHM is accessible from Interstates 95 or 76, Broad Street Subway or bus #17.



Sandra Binion's *Lake Verveln Triptych #3*, 2007, archival inkjet print, 11" x 14"

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