

HEROES OF THE REVOLUTION



Tina Turner at Castle Farms Michigan, August 31, 1985

A photographic retrospective by
Douglas Elbinger

Color Ink Studio & Gallery

20919 John R Rd., Hazel Park, MI 48030

September 19 - October 30, 2026

OPENING RECEPTION

Saturday, September 19, 2026 3 - 6 PM

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Heroes of the Revolution: Agents of Change

From the thousands of faces in my archives that qualify for the designation "*Hero of the Revolution*", the vast majority are faces you wouldn't recognize. So, to make this more engaging in the small space I have here, I included in the exhibition 28 of the more notable faces you may recognize.



Dan Gilbert 2012 Entrepreneur Dan Gilbert emerged as one of the central figures in Detroit's 21st-century revival. Through massive investment in downtown real estate and the relocation of thousands of employees, he helped catalyze new economic energy in the city.



Bill & Hillary Clinton 1996 Few political partnerships have shaped American public life as profoundly as Bill and Hillary Clinton. Their careers span the presidency, the U.S. Senate, diplomacy, and global humanitarian initiatives. Together they represent the complex intersection of political power, policy, and public service that defined American politics at the turn of the millennium.



Jimmy Carter 2005 Carter's influence extends far beyond his presidency. Through the Carter Center and decades of humanitarian work, he became a global advocate for peace, democracy, and human rights.



Barack Obama 2022 Obama's election as the first African American President of the United States marked a historic moment in American democracy. His message of hope, civic responsibility, and inclusive leadership energized a generation of citizens.



Bernie Sanders 2019 Bernie built a national movement around economic fairness, social justice, and grassroots democracy. His campaigns energized younger voters and introduced progressive policy ideas into mainstream political debate.



John Lennon & Paul McCartney 1966 As the principal songwriting partnership of The Beatles, John Lennon and Paul McCartney transformed popular music and global youth culture. Their songs redefined what pop music could express—blending artistry, experimentation, and social commentary.



Christopher Reeve & José Feliciano 1998 Christopher Reeve became an enduring symbol of courage after a devastating spinal injury transformed him from Hollywood icon to determined advocate for medical research. José Feliciano, a virtuoso guitarist and singer, helped bring Latin musical traditions into the mainstream.



Colin Powell 1989 General Colin Powell rose from modest beginnings in the Bronx to become a four-star general and U.S. Secretary of State. As the first African American to hold several of the nation's highest military and diplomatic posts, Powell's career embodied leadership, discipline, and historic progress within American institutions.



Daniel Ellsberg 1969 Daniel Ellsberg changed the course of American history when he released the Pentagon Papers in 1971. By exposing secret government assessments of the Vietnam War, he ignited a national debate about transparency, accountability, and the role of a free press. Ellsberg became one of the most consequential whistleblowers of the modern era.



Tina Turner 1985 Tina Turner's electrifying voice and stage presence made her one of the most powerful performers in rock and soul music. Her remarkable personal comeback in the 1980s transformed her into a global icon of resilience, independence, and artistic reinvention.



Robert F. Kennedy 1968 Robert F. Kennedy emerged in the 1960s as a passionate advocate for civil rights, social justice, and national reconciliation. His presidential campaign inspired millions with a message of compassion and moral responsibility. His assassination in 1968 ended a hopeful moment in American politics but left a legacy that continues to resonate.



Elton John 1971 With theatrical flair and unforgettable melodies, Elton John helped redefine modern pop music. His decades-long career spans generations of listeners and countless hit recordings. Beyond music, his philanthropic work in AIDS awareness and humanitarian causes has had a profound global impact.



George Carlin 1974 George Carlin revolutionized stand-up comedy through fearless satire and razor-sharp observations about language, power, and society. His routines challenged audiences to question authority and rethink cultural assumptions. Carlin's work remains a cornerstone of modern political and social comedy. and he offered me to join in.



Henry Kissinger 1996 Henry Kissinger stands as one of the most influential—and controversial—diplomats of the Cold War era. As National Security Advisor and Secretary of State, he helped shape American foreign policy during a period of intense global tension and negotiation.



Stanford Ovshinsky 2008 If you don't know about Stanford Ovshinsky you should Google his name. Michigan inventor Stanford Ovshinsky pioneered breakthroughs in energy science, including advances in solar technology and battery systems. A self-taught innovator, often compared to Thomas Edison, he challenged conventional research models and helped lay foundations for today's renewable energy technologies.



Noam Chomsky 1970 Linguist, philosopher, and public intellectual Noam Chomsky transformed the study of language with his theory of generative grammar. At the same time, his writings on politics and media power made him one of the most influential critics of modern political institutions.



Tony Spina 1991 Legendary Detroit Free Press photographer Tony Spina captured defining moments of Detroit's history through the lens of photojournalism. He was my personal mentor and friend. He set a high bar for real journalism. His dedication shaped generations of photographers and helped define the visual storytelling tradition of American journalism.



Jane Fonda 1971 Academy Award-winning actress Jane Fonda became equally known for her political activism. For decades she has used her public platform to challenge war, advocate for social justice, and raise awareness about climate change and civil rights.



Lee Iacocca 2007 Automotive executive Lee Iacocca became a symbol of American industrial resilience when he led Chrysler through a dramatic turnaround in the 1980s. His leadership restored confidence in the U.S. auto industry and made him one of the most recognizable business leaders of his era.



Marianne Williamson 2006 Author and public speaker Marianne Williamson spent decades exploring the intersection of spirituality, personal growth, and public responsibility. Her work challenges audiences to consider compassion and moral consciousness as essential elements of political and social life.



Maya Angelou 2003 Poet, memoirist, and civil rights activist Maya Angelou gave voice to generations through works of profound honesty and lyrical beauty. Her writing explores identity, dignity, and resilience, securing her place as one of the most important literary figures in modern American history.



His Holiness The Dalai Lama 2008 The Dalai Lama, spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhism, is internationally recognized as a voice for peace, compassion, and nonviolence. After fleeing Tibet in 1959, he became a global advocate for human dignity and interfaith understanding.



Thomas Knoll 2005 Software engineer Thomas Knoll co-created Adobe Photoshop, one of the most influential digital tools of the late 20th century. His innovation transformed photography, design, and media production, reshaping how images are created and experienced around the world.



Mick Jagger 1994 As the charismatic frontman of The Rolling Stones, Mick Jagger helped define the rebellious spirit of rock and roll. His stage presence, voice, and songwriting helped shape the soundtrack of multiple generations. The Rolling Stones famously played at Spartan Stadium in East Lansing on September 9, 1994 as part of their Voodoo Lounge Tour.



Ken Burns 2009 Ken Burns redefined documentary filmmaking by bringing history to life through archival footage, narration, and deeply human storytelling. His landmark films on subjects such as the Civil War, baseball, and jazz have shaped how millions of Americans understand their shared past. Burns' work demonstrates the power of storytelling to illuminate history and deepen the national conversation.

SHOW & TELL

Thursday, October 1, 2026 7 - 8:30 PM

Admission is free via RSVP @ heroes-of-the-revolution.eventbrite.com

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How was Doug Elbinger able to get a front row seat, backstage pass, or top security clearance to photograph some of the major cultural events of the 20th century?

Doug Elbinger's "**Show & Tell**" is an intimate evening of stories taking you behind the scenes of some of his most iconic photographs. Using a slideshow presentation, Elbinger shares the remarkable backstage moments and personal encounters that shaped his career photographing legendary cultural figures including The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Tina Turner, presidents, activists, and artists who changed the world. Elbinger offers audiences a rare insider's perspective on the people and events that defined generations. Part storytelling, part visual journey, "**Show & Tell**" invites guests into the experiences behind the photographs—where history, music, politics, and culture intersect through the lens of the photographer who was present.



Admission is
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RSVP @
Eventbrite
here



Heroes of the Revolution

Archival Gallery Prints, framed to 16" x 20", are available for \$495 each.

For other sizes and quantities, please contact the gallery.

SHOW DATES September 19 – October 30, 2026

Opening Reception	Saturday, September 19, 3 – 6 PM	Open to public
Sponsor Reception	Thursday, September 24, 5 – 8 PM	Invitation only
Show & Tell	Thursday, October 1, 7 – 8:30 PM	via Eventbrite

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Gallery Hours: weekdays from 10 am to 4 pm and by appointment

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