



# **VOICES OF STEEL:**

*Photographer Clarence Snyder  
with Edward A. Leskin*

**April 27 - May 11, 2002**

**Binney & Smith Gallery at the Banana Factory**

*Opening Reception: Friday, May 3 6:00 - 9:00pm*

*Lecture and presentation of Bruce Ward's video, Voices of Steel: Wednesday, May 8 7:00pm*



Edward A. Leskin,  
*Richie Check* 2001

Clarence Snyder,  
*Blast Furnace, Bethlehem Steel Plant, Bethlehem PA* 1980



cover: Clarence Snyder, *World Trade Center Twin Towers, Lower Manhattan, NY* 1977

## Clarence Snyder

A native of Easton, PA, Clarence began his career as a photographer for the Easton Free Press while still in high school. He continued to work for the paper until the Easton Free Press closed in 1943. Immediately hired by Bethlehem Steel Corporation, Clarence worked as their photographer and aerial photographer for the next forty years.

Clarence's works range from views of ships at sea, skyscrapers, oil rigs in the Atlantic, to interior shots of architectural beauty, workers at the edge of the fiery flow of steel and an aerial view of Madison Square Garden. There is one picture that must have taken him out on a wild helicopter ride - leaning out over New York Harbor to capture an unusual shot of the Statue of Liberty.

He has won recognition for his work. He was honored by the American Iron and Steel Institute in 1974 and received in 1987 an award for excellence from the Professional Photographers of America, Inc. His images have appeared in the Museum of Modern Art in New York and on the pages of many publications.

In his love of photography, Clarence explains his passion as "like lighting a fire that never went out" once he started his career. Now at 82, he has slowed down but still oozes passion and enthusiasm when speaking of his work and says, "I loved what I did - I would've worked for free if I could."

Clarence credits his wife Sylvia who raised their three children, a boy and two girls while he flew around the country. They still live in Easton where Clarence remains active in his community as secretary of the Easton Kiwanis Club and member of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club. He received Easton's Citizen of the Year Award in 2001.

## Edward A. Leskin

*"These portraits of the men and women who worked in the Bethlehem Plant over the past century is my attempt to document a story often heard in the history of America - the story of the immigrant in search of a better life, of the struggle of American labor and industry, of the man who saves a life working in the belly of an inferno to produce the steel that built the nation with great pride. The stories evoke tears of sadness and joy. All of this occurred in the area of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, the center of steel country for many generations."*

A graduate of the MFA program at Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY, Ed has been working as a photographer from 1989 to the present. He has had exhibitions at galleries around the Lehigh Valley including Touchstone Theatre's "Images of Steelbound". Ed has photographs in the permanent collection at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington DC.

# EXHIBITIONS 2002

JANUARY 18 - FEBRUARY 23

*Hans Moller*, Binney & Smith Gallery  
*Lincoln Fajardo*, Banko Room Gallery

MARCH 3 - APRIL 6

*Artists & Art of the Book*, Binney & Smith Gallery  
*Young Artist Exhibition*, Banko Room Gallery

APRIL 26 - MAY 3

*Voices of Steel: Clarence Snyder with Edward A. Leskin*,  
Binney & Smith Gallery  
*Southside Photo Exhibition*, Banko Room Gallery

MAY 17 - JUNE 8

*Danielle Jacqui*, Artist-in-Residence, Digital Art Classroom

MAY 24 - JUNE 30

*National Association of Women Artists: Annual Exhibition*,  
Binney & Smith and Banko Room Galleries

JULY 5 - AUGUST 17

*Collaboration: Music & Art*, Binney & Smith Gallery  
Dane Tilghman, juror

AUGUST 30 - OCTOBER 12

*Remember: Red, White, Blue*, Binney & Smith Gallery  
*Gallery 20*, Banko Room Gallery

OCTOBER 18 - NOVEMBER 30

*Pennsylvania Watercolor Society*, Binney & Smith Gallery  
*Healing Stories: Touchstone Theatre*, Banko Room Gallery

DECEMBER 6 - JANUARY 11

*Banana Factory Artists Annual Exhibition*, Binney & Smith Gallery

*Banana Factory Mission: To kindle, support and celebrate the artistic, cultural and creative spirit of the Lehigh Valley  
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