Launch of a unique book: *Acadie Then and Now: A People’s History*

The New Orleans launch of the book *Acadie Then and Now: A People’s History* will be at the Downriver Festival II which will take place on Saturday, September 13th at the Old U.S. Mint at 400 Esplanade Ave. The festival is sponsored by the Friends of the Cabildo, National Park Service, Southern Food & Beverage Museum, French Market and *Offbeat* magazine.

The Lafayette book launch will be held on September 28 at 11:00 a.m. at Vermilionville.

In the U. S., the book may be ordered from Warren A. Perrin ([perrin@plddo.com](mailto:perrin@plddo.com)), Acadian Museum ([www.acadianmuseum.com](http://www.acadianmuseum.com)), or Andrepont Printing ([www.andrepontprinting.com](http://www.andrepontprinting.com)), and in Canada from *Le Grande Marée* at [jouellet@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:jouellet@nbnet.nb.ca). On the web, the book will shortly be available with Amazon.com and Barnesandnoble.com.

Acadians from around the world are showcased in a unique new book (in English and French) about the Acadian diaspora, which focuses on their communities in the United States, Canada and France.

What people are saying about this book:

*An important book in Acadian literature.* – Nicolas Steinbach, Radio-Canada (CBC)

*A remarkable book and a remarkable feat to have touched on the Acadian experience from just about every point of view.* – Zachary Richard, musician, Louisiana’s French poet laureate and author of *The History of the Acadians of Louisiana*

*This book is a colossal work.* – Jimena Vergara, Radio-Canada (CBC)

*I am proud to be a part of this project, which provides an impressive collection of perspectives on the Acadian and Cajun experiences. I suspect that this will become a standard reference for years to come.* – Barry Jean Ancelet, PhD, the Willis Granger and Tom Debaillon U. L. Professorship in Francophone Studies, author of *Cajun and Creole Music Makers* and *Second Line Rescue*.

In 1605, French colonists settled Acadie (today Nova Scotia, Canada) and for the next 150 years developed a strong and unique Acadian culture. In 1755, the British
conducted forced deportations of the Acadians, rendering thousands homeless, and for the next 60 years these exiles migrated to seaports along the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico, eventually settling in new lands. This tragic upheaval did not succeed in extinguishing the Acadians, but instead planted the seeds of many new Acadies, where today their fascinating culture still thrives.

This book is a collection of 65 articles by 55 authors on the Acadians and Cajuns living today in the American states of Louisiana, Texas, and Maine; in the Canadian provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Quebec; and in the French regions of Nantes, Poitou, Belle-Ile-en-Mer, and St-Pierre et Miquelon. The collection provides the readers with new insights on the past, present, and future of the Acadian descendants from all the Acadies of the world.

The book was directed by Warren Perrin, lawyer, Acadian and environmental activist, and author; Mary Broussard Perrin, artist and author; and Phil Comeau, filmmaker and author, during several years of preparation.

All profits from the book will be donated to 22 Acadian museums which are located in three countries. Prior to his death, Cajun artist George Rodrigue gave his permission to use his painting for use on the books’ cover.

Two of the book directors are available to do interviews:

Warren Perrin, (337) 501-3049 or (337) 233-5832
Mary Broussard Perrin, (337) 501-3053

Biographies of the three directors of the book:

Warren A. Perrin – born near Erath and currently residing in Lafayette, Louisiana. He holds a Juris Doctorate degree from Louisiana State University School of Law and is an attorney with the firm of Perrin, Landry, deLaunay, Dartez, and Ouellet. From 1994 to 2010, he was president of the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL) and an adjunct professor at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. He was a member of the board of directors of the Congrès mondial acadien-Louisiane 1999, president of the Lt. Governor's Task Force of FrancoFête 1999, and the founder of the Acadian Museum of Erath, Louisiana. Perrin represented Louisiana and the U.S. at the World Francophone Summits in Hanoi,
Vietnam; Moncton, New Brunswick; Bucharest, Romania; Quebec City, Canada; and Montreux, Switzerland. He is the author of six books dealing with French culture, including *Acadian Redemption* (2004), the first biography of an Acadian exile and which reveals how he obtained a successful resolution of his “Petition for an Apology for the Acadian Deportation” from Great Britain, resulting in “The Queen's Royal Proclamation,” signed on December 9, 2003. The book was translated into French as *Une Saga Acadienne* (2005). In 1999, French President Jacques Chirac bestowed upon Perrin the French National Order of Merit. He received an honorary Doctor of Laws at *Université Sainte-Anne* in Nova Scotia, Canada. In 2007, Perrin was inducted into the Louisiana Justice Hall of Fame and in 2012 he was named chairman of the Francophone Section of the Louisiana State Bar Association.

**Phil Comeau** – film director, writer, and editor, was born in Baie Sainte-Marie, Nova Scotia and lives in Montreal. Comeau studied dramatic arts at *Université de Moncton* in New Brunswick, and cinema in Paris, France. He has directed 100 drama and documentary films and television episodes in 25 countries, of which a third are films on Acadians. His films have won over 40 awards in Canada, the U.S., and Europe. He has also written some 70 film scripts; published poems in *Plumes d’icitte* and *Éloizes*; written an Acadian French dictionary, *Les mots acadjonnes*; and written articles for the Montreal magazine *L’Actualité*. For his contributions to Acadian culture and cinema, Comeau received the Order of Canada, *l’Ordre des francophones d’Amérique* in Québec, *l’Ordre des arts et des lettres* in France, the *Prix Méritas* of the *Fédération acadienne* in Québec, and the *Prix Grand-Pré* in Nova Scotia. Comeau has also received honorary doctorates from *Université Sainte-Anne* and *Université de Moncton*, both in Canada.

**Mary Broussard Perrin** – is a mixed media artist living in Lafayette, Louisiana. She working in painting, photomontage, artist books and performance art and is a former educator and gallery owner. She earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Louisiana and a Master’s in Visual Art from the Vermont College of Fine Arts. She has work in the collections of the National Museum for Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C.; the Ogden Museum of Southern Art in New Orleans, a branch of the Smithsonian; the New Orleans Museum of Art; and the Louisiana State Museum in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
Their photos are enclosed as attachments, as is the cover of the book.

List of authors of book:

From USA

Louisiana (16)
Warren A. Perrin (co-director of book and author)
Mary Broussard Perrin (co-director of book and author)
Barry Jean Ancelet, Ph. D.
Shane K. Bernard, Ph. D.
Darrell Bourque, Ph. D.
May Gwin Waggoner, Ph. D.
Joshua Caffery, Ph. D.
Whitney P. Broussard, Ph. D.
Zachary Richard
Charles Larroque
Marsha Sills
Stanley LeBlanc
Martin Guidry
Natial Perrin d’Augereau
Michelle Le Blanc
Katy Reckdahl

Texas (4)
Jason Theriot, Ph. D
Thomas L. Linton, Ph. D.
Kathey Broussard King
Ryan Bernard

**Maine (2)**
Joseph Donald Cyr
Gisèle Faucher

**Massachusetts (1)**
A. M. Hodge

**Maryland (2)**
Gregory A. Wood, Ph. D.
Marie Rundquist

**From CANADA**

**New Brunswick (9)**
Ronnie-Gilles LeBlanc, Ph. D.
Herménégilde Chiasson, Ph. D.
Joseph Yvon Thériault, Ph. D.
Marc Robichaud, Ph. D.
Jean-Marie Nadeau
Maurice Basque
Michel Bastarache
Jeannita Thériault
Gérard LeBlanc

**Nova Scotia (8)**
Sally Ross, Ph. D.
A.J.B. Johnston, Ph. D.
Marie-Claude Rioux
Dianne Marshall
Bernice d’Entremont
Sandra Pettipas Perro
Judy Doucet Bellefontaine
Dean Jobb

**Québec (5)**
Phil Comeau (editor and co-director of book)
André-Carl Vachon
Alexandre Riopel
Roger Léger
Pauline Carbonneau

Prince Edward Island (1)
Georges Arsenault

Newfoundland (1)
Françoise Eugehard

From FRANCE (5)

Jean-François Mouhot, Ph. D.
Maryvonne Le Gac
Danielle Blancaneaux
Michèle Touret-Bodin
Alain Troubat

From ENGLAND (1)

Richard Holledge
Shown are authors (kneeling), left to right, Jean-Marie Nadeau (NB), André-Carl Vachon (QUE), and George Arsenault (PEI); standing, left to right, Raymond Gaudet (QUE), Évangéline Richard (QUE), Mary Broussard Perrin (LA), Gregory Wood (MD), Marty Guidry (LA), Sandra Pettipas Perro (NS), Gisèle Faucher (ME), Marie Rundquist (Md), Natial Perrin d’Augereau (LA), Warren A. Perrin (LA), Barry Ancelet (LA), Phil Comeaux (QUE), Michèlle Touret-Bodin (FRANCE), Marie-Claude Rioux (NS), and Richard Holledge (ENGLAND).