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**PRESS RELEASE: Illinois State Museum, Springfield
Downtown Springfield: First Friday**



WHEN:
November 1, 2013
5:00pm-8:00pm

WHERE:
Illinois State Museum
502 S Spring St.
Springfield, IL 62706

The ISM-Springfield is pleased to participate in Downtown Springfield First Friday events on Nov. 1. Museum hours extended until 8:00pm. Plenty of free parking!

Watch a GIANT rise in the lobby as our staff assembles the "Rusty Finnegan" sculpture by Michael Ferris Jr. Standing at over 9 ft. tall, and wearing size 16 sneakers. Rusty is made of inlaid wood mosaic and acrylic pigmented grout. Hear Rusty's story (and get a peek inside Rusty's camera). Assembly begins at 5:30p.m. The Rusty Finnegan sculpture will be on view in the ISM lobby throughout November and December.

From 4pm to 8pm enjoy a special Maria Burk jewelry trunk show in the Museum Store. Enjoy refreshments and shop the Illinois State Museum Store, selected as one of the top 10 gift shops in Illinois (Illinois Travel Guide 2013).

At 6:30 p.m. listen to live music by Finnegans Wake in the Museum's lower level Thorne Deuel Auditorium. Bill Furry, John Van Orman, and Bill Rintz play traditional Irish, English, Scottish, and American Folk Music. The trio of traditional folk musicians originally from Springfield, have been playing music together, separately, and with other ensembles for 40-plus years.

Guests may also wish to investigate the museum's many galleries, and to visit the recently opened exhibition "Figurism," now on display in the second floor galleries. The exhibition, with works from fifty outstanding artists, reflects the richness of figurative art--academic, modern and contemporary, realistic and abstract--and everything between. Exhibition runs from September 28 through March 2, 2014.

