Most folks have seen movies with stars such as James Dean, Elizabeth Taylor and Marilyn Monroe. But catching those same celebrities candidly—now that’s a different story.

“We’ve got wonderful art from the old movies we love and those that we may have forgotten, too,” said Denise Fasske, the city’s art and cultural events director. “These are stunning, candid photographs.”

“Magnum Cinema,” a collection of 206 color and black-and-white photographs, opens with a free reception 6-8 p.m. today at the Historic City Hall Arts & Cultural Center, 1001 Ryan St. Refreshments will be served.

The exhibit was organized by Magnum Photos and toured by International Arts & Artists of Washington, D.C. It features behind-the-scenes photographs of several movie sets including “On the Waterfront,” “The Seven Year Itch,” “The Birds,” “Funny Face,” “Chimes at Midnight,” “Suddenly Last Summer” and “Notorious.”

Even if you don’t remember these movies, you can still enjoy the exhibit, Fasske said.

“The exhibit is actually about the photography,” she said. “It doesn’t matter if you remember the old movies or the current ones, the photography is absolutely stunning.”

Magnum Photos is a diverse photographic co-operative owned by its photographer-members who chronicle the world and interpret its people, events, issues and personalities. Through its four editorial offices in New York,
CANDID: Several special events connected with show

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The photos in this exhibit, Fasske said, were selected from more than 6,000 pictures from the private archives of Magnum photographers such as Robert Capa, Bruce Davidson and Eve Arnold. Many of the photos had never been published.

"The Magnum photographers are of a high caliber in their industry," she said. "They have filmed behind the scenes of movie sets for over 50 years."

The exhibit is not only entertaining, Fasske said, it's also educational.

"You get to see a glimpse of the environment of filmmaking," she said. "It's very interesting to see how it all Halsman's "jump" photographs including those of Bridget Bardot, Marilyn Monroe, Grace Kelly and the Dean Martin-Jerry Lewis comedy duo.

Other cinema luminaries pictured in the exhibit include Cate Blanchett, Clark Gable, Orson Welles, Alfred Hitchcock and Ingrid Bergman, to name a few.

In addition to the reception, there also will be educational programs to correspond with the exhibit, including two informational introductions and screenings by film historian Dr. Peter Dart at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 12 and 26; and an Academy TV presentation of "Not Your Ordinary Cinema Soundtracks," a teen-age twist