

North Dakota Museum of Art

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Museum to Add Important Sculpture to Its Collection. Public Invited to Weigh In.

Seattle-based sculptor Craig Langager has recently offered the North Dakota Museum of Art a selection from his major sculptures for its collection. The Museum invites the public to help decided which pieces should be accepted. Many of these works are based on his memories and experiences of being on the Northern Plains in the 1980s and 1990s. The sculpture also reflects his long concern with environmental issues and endangered species. Ballots will be available at the Museum. Guests are encouraged to choose their favorite works of art in order to help the Museum make this significant decision.

Langager was born in Seattle, Washington in 1946. Being raised in Aberdeen, South Dakota and attending Northern State University and Bemidji State University, ties Langager to the Northern Plains. This bond to the region led Lagager to offer selected pieces from this body of work to the Museum's collection, to insure that the people of the region have access to significant works of art that are regionally important.

Over the years, Museum Director Laurel Reuter has watched his work and has been struck by his relationship with animals, a frequent subject in his sculpture. Reuter felt that accepting this work into the collection was particularly appropriate given our location on the Northern Plains and the Museum's work on the identity of those who inhabit them and their relationship to the land and its occupants. It is this connection that elicits memories of the work that sprang from the Museum's commissions to Mary Lucier, John Solinger, Jim Dow and Katherin Lipke in the *Emptying Out of the Plains* series.

The Craig Langager exhibition will open November 18, 2007 and run through January 20, 2008. The public is invited to the official opening Sunday, November 18 from 3 – 5 pm. Langager has come from the Seattle area to be a part of this celebration and to give an informal gallery talk about his work. Voting will continue through the closing of the exhibition.

The North Dakota Museum of Art is located on Centennial Drive, Grand Forks. Weekdays 9 – 5 pm. Weekends 1 – 5 pm. The Museum Shop is open during these hours as well. The Museum Café is open weekdays 10 – 4 pm with lunch served from 11 – 2 pm. Although the Museum does not charge an admission fee, the suggested donation is \$5 for adults and change for children.
Wireless internet access available.