

North Dakota Museum of Art

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Matthew Wallace

mwallace@ndmoa.com

701-777-4195

NORTH DAKOTA MUSEUM OF ART FEATURES ECLECTIC EXHIBITION, LAND AND SPIRIT

The North Dakota Museum of Art is interested in the difference between art of the region and what one finds throughout the nation. With this idea in mind, *Land and Spirit*, features a collection of art by both regional and internationally renowned artists. The exhibition will run through Sunday, June 11.

In this collection, visitors will find art that is wholly regional—from Marley Kaul’s backyard to Leo Kim’s big sky. But even the artists who are not from this region have something to share with Museum visitors. Georgie Papageorge, a white South African woman, confronts borders, a subject not foreign to citizens of the Red River Valley, in her piece *African Rifting--Lines of Fiber, Namibia/Brazil*. Paula Santiago’s creations, made out of rice paper, human hair and blood, can be seen as feminine and beautiful or visceral, depending on one’s perspective. Xu Bing, who was recently successful in selling a number of pieces at Sotheby’s in New York, confronts and exposes the gaps between cultures, languages and meanings in his mixed media creation *After Apple-Picking*. Many of the artists in this exhibition, such as David Krueger, grew up in this region but now live and work elsewhere. Their work, however, remains rooted in their past and thus this region.

“It seems to be that artists from our region are closer to the land, and this reveals itself in the preponderance of animals in regional art,” says Laurel Reuter, the Museum’s director. Indeed, visitors will find many animal figures in this exhibition, including horses by Walter Piehl and Jaune Quick-to-see-Smith, deer by Erik Budd and fish by Adam Kemp.

The UND School of Aviation, the use of small planes for crop-dusting and photographing family farms and, of course, the big open sky, have made aerial views a significant subject in regional art. Thus, many aerial views can also be found in this exhibition.

Just as the animal runs and the sky reaches, the land of this region runs through our hearts and minds until it becomes a part of our spirit. Celebrate this connection at the North Dakota Museum of Art.

The North Dakota Museum of Art strives to bring the best in regional, national and international art to the people of the Great Plains. In a little-known geographic region of the world, the Museum is dedicated to enriching cultural life through vital and far-reaching contemporary art. The Museum’s permanent collection includes contemporary, international art in all media starting with the early 1970s (the founding of the Museum) onwards. It collects the visual history of the region and is also assembling a survey collection of contemporary Native American art, starting with the early 1970s when the movement emerged. It collects other pieces, even if they are outside this focus, if they would enrich the visual life of the Museum’s audience.

The North Dakota Museum of Art is located on Centennial Drive on the University of North Dakota campus in Grand Forks. Gallery hours are weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and weekends from 11 to 5 p.m. The Museum Shop is open during these hours as well. Although the Museum does not charge an admission fee, the suggested donation is \$5 for adults and pocket change for children.