

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION BY EDWARD S CURTIS

Exhibition closes on 28 February.



Edward S Curtis
Shot in the Hand
Pigment print

Sacred Legacy is a unique photographic exhibition created to celebrate the native peoples of the United States and their history and culture. The exhibition illustrates the broad and extraordinary diversity among the North American tribes, and pays homage to the famed photographer and ethnographer, Edward S Curtis.

In 1906 Curtis began an undertaking that would consume him for the next twenty-four years: *The North American Indian*, a twenty-volume, twenty-portfolio set of handmade books. Each set contains over 2 200 original photographs plus extensive text covering the western United States and Canada. The Native American subjects themselves are the principal reason Curtis's work has stood the test of time. Their powerful presence, dignity and emotional depth are all quintessential underpinnings of Curtis's photographs. That all these qualities come through so profoundly in his most compelling photographs is not only a testimony to his technical and artistic mastery, but perhaps even more so a reflection of the subjects themselves.

On exhibition at the Pretoria Art Museum is a selection of sixty of Curtis's most evocative images. Each image has been printed in a size and medium intended to fully enhance the impact of the subject. The prints are extremely faithful to the look, feel and dimensions of Curtis's original, vintage prints. The images are representative of the diverse cultural and geographic regions in which he photographed and illustrate his artistry in portrait, landscape and still life photography. A wide variety of print media were explored and employed for this exhibition.

Print media used in the photographs

Platinum prints: Platinum prints are widely regarded as the highest form of photographic expression, but because the medium is both expensive and difficult, these prints are extremely rare. They are known for their rich blacks, subtle highlights, and broad, well-distinguished midtones. Because the platinum solution soaks into the paper it appears to be inside the paper itself.

Goldtone prints: The goldtone print, which is also known as an orotone and a Curt-tone, was a hallmark of the Curtis Studio. Even though Curtis pioneered and popularised this rarely used medium just after 1900, he printed only about one in every thousand negatives using this expensive and difficult process. Despite this it was his favourite medium. In the goldtone process the photograph is printed directly on glass, then backed with a gold liquid wash. These prints have become very valuable and highly sought after. There are five goldtone photographs on exhibition - not to be missed!

Curtis also used photogravure, gum bichromate and toned silver prints.

WHAT IS ...

Outsider Art: also known as phantastic, raw or visionary art. In 1945 the French artist Jean Dubuffet recognised that extraordinary artwork was being created by individuals, often socially maladjusted and with no art training, who worked outside the mainstream of Western art, and who were as much obsessive as creative. He named their art form "Art Brut". The term "Outsider Art" was first used by the British scholar Roger Cardinal in 1972.

Outsider Art environments or visionary environments can be found throughout the world. Individuals are inspired to build highly personalised homes or living areas (such as Helen Martin's Owl House, New Bethesda), often combining architecture, sculpture and landscaping in ways contrary to local traditions or building codes (eg Nukian Mabusa's *Stone Garden* near Nelspruit). Such environments may take decades to complete.



Nukian Madusa
Stone Garden near Nelspruit

WHAT'S ON

SACRED LEGACY

20 January to 28 February 2010
Albert Werth Hall

Sacred Legacy is a unique photographic exhibition created to celebrate the native peoples of the United States and their history and culture. The exhibition illustrates the broad and extraordinary diversity among the North American tribes and pays homage to the famed photographer and ethnographer, Edward S Curtis. *Sacred Legacy* is a collaborative effort of the Embassy of the United States of America and the Pretoria Art Museum.

PELMAMA PERMANENT ART COLLECTION DONATION

12 October 2009 to 28 February 2010
North Gallery and Henry Preiss Hall



Judith Mason
Crucifix into Scarecrow
Oil on canvas
Donated: PELMAMA
Permanent Art Collection

In January 1991 the Pretoria Art Museum received the first donation from Mr Fernand Haenggi. It consisted of graphic artworks and a large collection of ceramics. Mr Haenggi was dynamically involved in the South African art market from 1961 until 1993, and also the driving force behind PELMAMA, when he decided to settle in Switzerland, his home country. Artworks from the PELMAMA Permanent Art Collection were then donated, or given on long-term loan to existing museums throughout South Africa. In the process the Pretoria Art Museum received another large donation as well as more artworks on loan. These artworks became an integral part of the museum's exhibitions. In January 2009 the Pretoria Art Museum received as donation all the remaining PELMAMA artworks that were on long-term loan to it at that stage. With this exhibition the Pretoria Art Museum would like to acknowledge the generosity of Mr Haenggi for this tremendous donation.

INTIMATE SCENES

From 2 February until 30 May 2010
East Gallery

For this exhibition, artworks have been selected from the Pretoria Art Museum's permanent international printmaking collection. Interior and still life scenes are found to be a popular theme for printmaking techniques. This selection includes the works of well-known 20th century artists like Pablo Picasso and Rene Magritte.

A STORY OF SOUTH AFRICAN ART

Until December 2010
South Gallery

A selection of artworks from the permanent collection of the Museum tells a brief story of South African art from the time of the first San artists. This selection includes the works of early 20th century painters, Resistance artists of the 1980s and artists of the 21st century.

COROBRIK COLLECTION

Until December 2010
Glass Gallery

A selection of ceramics, representing the development of studio ceramics and the work of traditional rural potters of South Africa over the past thirty years, is on display.

STUDY COLLECTION

Until December 2010
Information Centre

Art media and techniques are illustrated in the Information Centre.

CHILDREN'S GALLERY

The Children's Gallery is a unique, fun space with hands-on, interactive activities geared towards young children, including children who have learning barriers and those who are physically and mentally challenged. In this space, children are introduced to art fundamentals in a playful manner. The long-term aim is to instil aesthetic awareness and to stimulate discernment, visual literacy and individual creativity, all of which are prerequisites for lateral thinking.

For enquiries and bookings contact Mmutle Kgokong at arthurk@tshwane.gov.za or eassistants@gmail.com.

Cost: Learners R20,00; Adults R22,00 (entrance fee included)

REFERENCE LIBRARY

The art reference library at the Pretoria Art Museum can be visited by appointment from Tuesdays to Fridays between 10:00 and 15:00.
Contact Mmutle Kgokong at arthurk@tshwane.gov.za.

CARPACCIO!

Beef Carpaccio was said to be invented by Giuseppe Cipriani in 1950 at his landmark restaurant Harry's Bar in Venice, Italy. He named the dish after the Renaissance painter Vittore Carpaccio whose use of red in his paintings was his personal signature.

- 500 g good quality beef fillet
- 125 ml extra virgin olive oil
- 125 ml lemon juice
- 60 ml white wine vinegar
- 1 tsp Dijon mustard
- 1 tbsp spring onions, chopped
- 2 tbsp capers, drained
- 2 tbsp flat-leaf parsley (or other herbs), chopped
- Pinch of salt
- Some parmesan (or any hard Italian cheese), shaven or finely grated

Method

Trim the fat from the beef, wrap the beef in foil and place in the freezer for 30 minutes to facilitate slicing, without freezing it.

While the meat is in the freezer, make the sauce by combining the lemon juice, vinegar, spring onions, capers, mustard, parsley and salt. Gradually whisk in the olive oil by pouring in as a thin stream and refrigerate for at least 20 min.

Remove the meat from the freezer and with a very sharp knife slice into paper thin slices.

Place the beef slices on a platter or individual plates.

Top with the sauce, with additional sauce served on the side.

Sprinkle your cheese of choice over the fillet slices and serve immediately.



Pieter Wenning
Frieskoei

Watercolour and pencil on paper
Pretoria Art Museum Collection

CENTURION ART GALLERY

CURRENT AND FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS

Paballo Thekiso and Leon Sadiki

From 3 to 28 February 2010

The theme of these two artists' work are exciting and diverse - from performance, portraiture, fashion and documentary to commercial - and reflect the dynamism, creativity and versatility of these two inspired artists. This exhibition gives them the platform to display their talent and to make an impact on the viewers' visual literacy.

TUT Annual Photography Exhibition

1 to 26 March 2010

The photographic works produced by the 2009 students of the Department of Visual Communication are an exciting variety ranging from documentary to conceptual and commercial photographic works. This exhibition affords students exhibition experience outside the confines of the academic environment.

CONTACT DETAILS

Pretoria Art Museum

Museum hours: Tue - Sun, 10:00 - 17:00

Closed on Mondays and public holidays

Admission: Adults - R6,00; Learners - R4,00

Pre-booked tours: Admission fee + R6,00

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Email: art.museum@tshwane.gov.za

Website: www.pretoriaartmuseum.co.za

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Centurion Art Gallery

Gallery hours: Mon - Fri, 10:00 - 17:00

Closed on weekends and public holidays

Admission is free

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