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FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 2011

THE ARTS

ART EXPLOSION

National Andy Warhol exhibit opens at the C.M. Russell Museum today

BY JAKE SORICH | TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

The C.M. Russell Museum goes pop today. Known for its award-winning Western art, the museum displays work from one of the most well-known American artists not named Charlie Russell with today's opening of the "Andy Warhol Portfolios: Legends from the Cochran Collection."

The art comes from the private collection of Wesley and Missy Cochran.

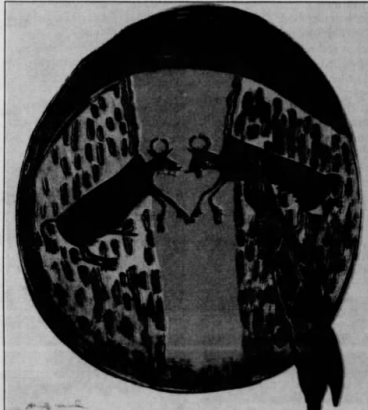
The exhibit includes 36 iconic screen prints created from 1974 to 1986, the year before Warhol's death. Featuring images from several of Warhol's most important series, the collection is notable for two suites of prints. The first is the "Myth" series containing subjects from the stories, myths and legends that fascinated Warhol later in his career, such as the Wicked Witch, Dracula, Superman and Santa Claus.

The second is one of his last projects, the "Cowboys and Indians" series, in which Warhol pays homage to America's popular version of Western history. He depicts such American heroes of the West as Teddy Roosevelt and Geronimo, as well as Western entertainers including Annie Oakley and John Wayne.

The suite also features romanticized, stereotyped and exploited images of Native Americans. Strategically placed together in one suite, these icons challenge and expose the controversies surrounding America's collective mythologizing of the West.

On its website, the Rockwell Museum describes the "Cowboys and Indians" series as an important statement to Warhol's artistic philosophy. The museum in Corning, N.Y., displayed the series before the Russell Museum.

"Given his fascination with



"Plains Indian Shield" from the "Cowboys & Indians" series by Andy Warhol is one of the paintings to be displayed at the C.M. Russell Museum starting today. THE ANDY WARHOL FOUNDATION FOR THE VISUAL ARTS INC.

ESSENTIALS

WHAT: The C.M. Russell Museum presents the "Andy Warhol Portfolios: Legends from the Cochran Collection."
WHEN: The artwork will be on display today through Jan. 1, 2012.
WHERE: The C.M. Russell Museum, 406 11th St. N.
ADMISSION: Regular admission for nonmembers is \$10. Adults \$10, seniors and \$4 for children. Age 12 and younger are admitted free through Sept. 30. Children 12 and younger also get a free

appearance over reality, and with the impact that celebrity and carefully contrived imagery can have on the public imagination, it is not surprising that toward the end of his career Warhol turned his attention to the American West," the description reads. "But, as in his other work, Warhol's point

is not to document the reality of the land and people of the West. He is interested in how the idea of the West has had an impact on our perceptions of the West. "While these subjects are very familiar, their actual creators are not. We may readily recognize Geronimo, Teddy

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Laurie A. Stevens' "Before the Falls."

Great Falls exhibit opens at Paris Gibson Square

BY JAKE SORICH | TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

The Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art opens a new exhibition today that focuses on what inspires artists in the 100-mile radius around Great Falls.

The five artists featured are Frances Carlson, Lisa Easton, Christine McKay, Deb Schmit and Laurie A. Stevens. The display runs through Oct. 15.

For more than 20 years, Carlson has lived with her family by the Sun River in Great Falls.

With little formal training, Carlson has drawn upon her intense desire to make sense of what she sees. Because her

father grew up in China and her mother in Hawaii, as a child she was surrounded by Asian art. Later, she studied the masters of the Western hemisphere, and her efforts to reconcile the two traditions is evident in her work.

She has been juried into shows both in Montana and on the West Coast and has won several awards for her designs and drawings.

Initially focused on illustration, Carlson's subjects have ranged from politicians to poultry. While her style and medium

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GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE Great Falls, Montana