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MAYNARD DIXON: THE PALTENGI COLLECTIONS PREMIERES AT NEVADA MUSEUM OF ART

Exhibition on view January 21 – July 16 offers an intimate look at Dixon's life in the American West through paintings and never-before-seen drawings.



Reno, Nev. – This January the Nevada Museum of Art welcomes paintings and rare drawings by Maynard Dixon, one of the premier artists working in the American West during the first half of the twentieth century. Drawn from the private collections of Bruce C. Paltenghi and Dr. Richard Paltenghi, this exhibition offers an intimate look at Dixon's life and creative process, providing insight into the passionate way he traversed and interpreted the world. *Maynard Dixon: The Paltenghi Collections* opens January 21, 2017, and will remain on view through July 16, 2017, at the Nevada Museum of Art, Donald W. Reynolds Center for the Visual Arts, E. L. Wiegand Gallery located at 160 West Liberty Street in downtown Reno. A 96-page book by the same name, published by the Museum and authored by Bruce C. Paltenghi, accompanies the exhibition.

For over five decades Dixon documented the landscapes and cultures of the American West with unparalleled passion and authenticity. Nevada especially appealed to the artist, as he spent significant time exploring the state's desert and mountain landscapes during the 1920s and 1930s.

"From Montana to Arizona, and from California to Utah, remote places beckoned Dixon with irresistible force throughout his life," writes Dixon scholar and author Donald J. Hagerty. "The West's secluded locations offered redemptive qualities for him, escape from personal travails, and sanctuary from the pressures of technological and industrial forces and the direct experiences that activated his art."

Inspired to begin collecting by their father, Richard E. Paltenghi, the Bay Area, California-based Paltenghi brothers have amassed a collection of over 70 artworks that offer an intimate look at Dixon's life in the American West between 1889 and 1944. Included in the selections on view at the Nevada Museum of Art are many never-before-seen drawings with subjects ranging from mountain and desert landscapes, to portraits and nude figure studies.

Explore *Maynard Dixon* through these educational and entertaining offerings:

MEMBERS' PREMIERE AND FIRST THURSDAY

Thursday, March 2 | 5 pm

First Thursday, the popular long-standing monthly program, expands to a members' premiere celebrating *Maynard Dixon: The Paltenghi Collections*. Meet the collectors Bruce C. Paltenghi and Dr. Richard Paltenghi, explore the exhibition, and enjoy live music by Dusty Miles and the Cryin' Shame while sipping libations and nibbling on light appetizers provided by *chez louie*. *Members' Premiere sponsored NV Energy. First Thursday sponsored by Barrick Gold of North America, and hosted by The X 100.1 FM Radio and Great Basin Brewing Company. Wine sponsored by Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits. \$10 general admission | FREE for Museum Members*

ART BITE: BRUCE C. PALTENGGHI AND DR. RICHARD PALTENGGHI ON BUILDING A DIXON COLLECTION

Friday, March 3, 2017 | noon

Inspired by their father who purchased his first Maynard Dixon artwork in 1964, the Paltenghi brothers have spent over four decades building a collection of rarely-seen Dixon works including many notable drawings. In this lunchtime talk, collectors Bruce C. Paltenghi and Dr. Richard Paltenghi highlight some of their favorite collecting stories and artworks by Maynard Dixon. *Support for the Art Bite series comes from Nevada Arts Council and Nevada Humanities. \$10 | FREE Museum members*

TALK: DONALD J. HAGERTY: MAYNARD DIXON IN NEVADA

Saturday, March 4, 2017 | 2 - 3 pm

An independent scholar and consultant on the arts and cultures of the American West, Hagerty is the author of many publications on Maynard Dixon and other artists, both historic and contemporary. In this talk he focuses specifically on Dixon's time spent in Nevada and the artist's passion for the desert. Hagerty's monograph, *The Art of Maynard Dixon* (2011), is available for purchase in the Museum Shop. A book signing follows the talk. **\$12 | \$8 Museum members | \$5 students**

SPECIAL EVENT: TOM RUSSELL IN CONCERT

Saturday, March 4, 2017 | 4:30 - 6:30 pm

Singer songwriter, painter, essayist - Tom Russell has recorded 35 highly acclaimed records and published five books. His songs have been recorded by Johnny Cash, K.D. Lang, Joe Ely, and numerous others. Rolling Stone has dubbed Russell the "greatest living folk-country songwriter" and critics have called him "the last great American voice." In celebration of *Maynard Dixon: The Paltenghi Collections*, the Museum presents a special Sky Room concert with this musical treasure of the American West. **\$30 | \$25 Museum members | \$25 students**

TALK: JOHN OTT: MAYNARD DIXON AND THE GREAT DEPRESSION

Thursday, March 30, 2017 | 6 - 8 pm

A scholar of the American West, John Ott recently wrote an essay titled, "Westward Contraction: Maynard Dixon Paints the Great Depression." A specialist in American Art, Ott earned his PhD at UCLA in 2002, and is a Professor of Art History at James Madison University. **\$12 | \$8 Museum members | \$5 students**

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About Nevada Museum of Art

www.nevadaart.org

The Nevada Museum of Art is a museum of ideas. The only accredited art museum in the state, it is a private, non-profit organization supported by the generosity of its membership as well as by sponsorships and grants. Through creative programming and scholarship, the E. L. Cord Museum School, and Center for Art + Environment, the Museum provides the opportunity for people to encounter, engage and enjoy a diversity of art experiences. The Museum is open Wednesday through Sunday, 10 am to 6 pm, late on Thursdays until 8 pm, and closed on Mondays, Tuesdays and national holidays. Admission is FREE for members, \$10 General Admission, \$8 Student / Senior, \$1 children 6 to 12 years and free for children 5 and under. Annual Museum Membership starts at just \$30.

IMAGE CAPTIONS: (1) Maynard Dixon, *Tortolita Range*, 1944, oil on canvas board, 20 x 24 inches, Dr. Richard Paltenghi Collection (2) Maynard Dixon, *Grazing Buffalo*, 1938, pencil on paper, 4 ½ x 4 inches, Bruce C. Paltenghi Collection (3) Maynard Dixon, *Peak and Cloud #3*, 1943, oil on canvas board, Dr. Richard N. Paltenghi Collection