

American Indian Art and Iconography

Opening Celebration

Friday, February 5, 7-9 pm

Public opening celebration featuring the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum's spring 2010 exhibitions, including *Sharon Lockhart: Lunch Break*, *Allison Smith: Needle Work*, and *American Indian Art and Iconography*. The reception will include a cash bar.



Unknown (North American Indian, Sioux, Northern Plains), *Umbilical Fetish*, c. 1880–1900. Leather, glass beads. Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, Washington University in St. Louis. University acquisition.

American Indian Art and Iconography brings together over twenty-five art objects and artifacts made by the indigenous peoples of North America. This Teaching Gallery exhibition, drawn from the Museum's permanent collection, explores the ways in which the imagery on the pottery, baskets, stone and metal work, and copper plaques conveys sacred meaning, tells a story, or communicates beliefs while also providing insight into the daily life and rituals of each culture represented. The exhibition is divided into sections based on the strata of the cosmos that the iconography

represents—the Upper World, Middle World, or Lower World.

This Teaching Gallery exhibition is presented in conjunction with the course “American Indian Art and Iconography” offered by the Department of Anthropology and University College in spring 2010, and organized collaboratively by Carol Diaz-Granados, research associate in the department of anthropology; James R. Duncan, former director of the Missouri State Museum; and Carol Epstein, member of the National Council of Arts and Sciences.

Related Events

Wednesday, February 17, 5 pm: Gallery Talk with **Carol Diaz-Granados**

Wednesday, March 17, 5 pm: Gallery Talk on Wulfin Repoussé Plaques Spotlight with **Matthew Robb**, assistant curator at the Saint Louis Art Museum

Friday, April 16, 4:30 pm: Lecture, “Sacred Bundles and the Regalia of Gods, Heroes and Cult-Bearers,” by **F. Kent Reilly III**, Director of the Center for the Arts and Symbolism of Ancient America in the department of anthropology at Texas State University, San Marcos

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