Indigena features Canadian natives

Art — The exhibit is currently on display at the Fred Jones Museum.

By Elizabeth Wine
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The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art has once again brought to OU a thought-provoking array of works from established and up-and-coming artists.

The museum is presenting a large showing of works of art created especially for the exhibit by indigenous Canadian artists.

The exhibit is called Indigena: Contempo-

rary Native Perspectives.

Curators Lee-Ann Martin and Gerald McMaster gathered the works of 19 native Canadian artists after two years of traveling through Canada visiting art studios.

They arranged the exhibit for the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Hull, Quebec.

The exhibit has traveled for three years altogether and the OU campus is the final site.

The only other place in United States it was shown is the Heard Museum in Phoenix, Ariz. It traveled through Canada for two years.

The curators asked artists to create pieces with themes of colonization, discovery and issues dealing with interaction of native and non-native communities over the past 500 years. The artists also addressed the validity of native philosophies and values in relation to values of those of European ancestry.

“It’s extremely exciting, vivid and encourages considering many different perspectives,” said Terry Marshall, proposal specialist at the Museum of Art.

“The exhibition offers the Museum of Art an opportunity to be an arena to showcase the past and future of indigenous peoples: a resource and a platform to bring together the important artists of the past with the promising native artists of the future,” said Tom Toperzer, director of the Museum of Art.

The exhibit will run through September 3. It is free and open to the public. For more information, call 325-3272.