Kenna's Photos are Summer Show

Michael Kenna's haunting, meditative images of the gardens of André Le Nôtre are the basis for Le Nôtre's Gardens: Photographs by Michael Kenna, the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art's summer exhibition June 13 through August 30.

The exhibition features 40 sepia-toned silver gelatin photographs, dating from the mid-1980s to the mid-1990s, of the gardens of André Le Nôtre, the great landscape architect of 17th-century France. Le Nôtre's gardens are known for the power they evoke through symmetry and order, but Kenna's images surprise with their unexpected viewpoints that emphasize intimacy as well as grandeur.

Guest curator Eric T. Haskell has written, "This portfolio of Kenna's photographs constitutes an elegant, articulate interpretation of Le Nôtre's garden art. As such, it revives the places that his camera has brought into focus and restores them to the consciousness of yet another generation of viewers who long to become seers in the rich theater of these lasting landscapes."

Also on exhibit in the upper galleries are selections from the museum's 6,000-piece permanent collection.

Programming for the exhibition includes an August 2 Family Day, which introduces children and their guardians to the work of Michael Kenna, and then allows them to practice photography techniques of their own; and an August 28 symposium by Eric T. Haskell and James J. Yoch on "Formalism in the Garden."

The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art is located at 410 W. Boyd at the University of Oklahoma. Museum admission is free. Summer hours at Tuesday through Sunday, noon to 4:30 p.m. Parking is available on the campus's north oval with a museum parking permit, or in the Asp or Elm Street parking garages. For more information or accommodations on the basis of disability, call 325-3272 or visit the museum Web site, www.ou.edu/fjima.