
“Collaboration/Transformation” is a collection of lithographs and “case study” installations that take the viewer through the process which transforms an artist’s idea into a lithographic print. The works are from Hamilton Press, a non-commercial press that produces lithographs with invited artists. This exhibition features prints from six artists with Oklahoma ties. This year marks the 200th anniversary of the lithographic process.

“This exhibition is interesting because the case studies demonstrate how artists’ ideas, expressed in a variety of media, become lithographic prints,” said Gail Kana Anderson, assistant director/curator of Collections. “Because most of these works are by contemporary artists, they contrast nicely with the folk art exhibition.”

Ed Hamilton, master printer and co-founder of Hamilton Press, will discuss the importance of communication and collaboration between the artist and the printer and the role of Hamilton Press at 6 p.m., prior to the opening of the exhibit.

“A Passion for the Past,” organized by the American Federation of Arts and the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, is a collection of more than 80 pieces of early American Folk Art which the Littles amassed at their home, Cogswell’s Grant, in Essex, Massachusetts. The exhibition features examples of 18th- and 19th-century American folk paintings; folk sculpture, including decoys and weather vanes; watercolors; painted and decorated furniture; textiles; and ceramics. Documentary photographs and interpretive panels follow the Littles as they research the lives of early New Englanders.

The exhibition is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, with additional support provided by Sotheby’s.

The two exhibitions open with a reception to be held from 7 to 9 p.m. For more information or accommodations on the basis of disability, call 325-3272.

**Renowned Research Scientist Comes to OU**

Thomas S. Ray, a world-renowned research scientist in the field of evolutionary biology and artificial intelligence in the computer science field, has accepted an appointment as a professor at OU.

Ray, who received his Ph.D. from Harvard University, comes to OU from ATR Information Research Lab in Kyoto, Japan. Nathan Myhrvold, the chief technical officer of Microsoft, has described Ray’s research in artificial intelligence as among the most significant research being performed in the world in the computer science field.

President David L. Boren said, “Dr. Ray’s addition to our faculty is a major development, returning one of our most distinguished scientists back to the U.S. from Japan. It underlines OU’s commitment to strengthen our research base to better serve the state and our economic development.”

Ray is the creator of an extraordinary and much-publicized experiment, known as Network Tierra, that may shed light on basic evolutionary processes. Ray and his team of researchers at ATR have created an artificial “life form” that dwells on a network of 150 computers worldwide and is undergoing sophisticated mutations that appear to mimic the transition from simple to more complex organisms.

Paul B. Bell Jr., dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and vice provost for instruction, said, “Tom Ray will greatly strengthen the study of evolutionary biology. He will be joining the faculty of the Department of Zoology, where he will put OU on the cutting edge of research that used computerized life forms to study the process of evolution. His work will also be interdisciplinary with the field of computer sciences, offering the potential to adapt biological processes to develop new computer software through digital evolution.”