MUSEUM OF ART OPENS SUMMER SEASON

The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art, 410 W. Boyd at The University of Oklahoma, opens its summer season on Father’s Day, June 15, with two distinctly different exhibitions. *Personal Edens: the Gardens and Film Sets of Florence Yoch* and *Fritz Scholder: In Oklahoma* open with a reception from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the museum.

The muted ink, watercolor and gouache designs of Florence Yoch, a California landscape architect who created some of the most famous gardens of the West during her 50-year career, chronicle more than 250 versatile and original projects that ranged from Mexico to Carmel, California. She was instrumental in changing gardening concepts of the time with her designs, which were spare, intimate, and elegant, in contrast to the “more is better” approach of the 1940’s.

Best known in Hollywood for her landscape designs for the sets of *Gone With the Wind* and *Romeo and Juliet*, Yoch counted among her clients moguls David O. Selznick and Jack Warner and director George Cukor.

Programming to support the Yoch exhibition includes a lecture, *Behind the Scenes: Travels and Stories from the Career of Florence Yoch*, by Dr. James Yoch, Ph.D., Thursday, June 19, at 7:00 p.m.; Family Day on Sunday, July 20 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. which encourages children to create their own “personal Edens”; and a symposium on September 5, *Designing Edens in Our Century*, with co-curators Dr. Yoch and Eric T. Haskell, Ph.D., on notable American and French gardens.

Thomas R. Toperzer, Director of the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art, has

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organized an exhibition of Fritz Scholder’s works chosen from selected public and private collections in Oklahoma. *Fritz Scholder: In Oklahoma* is the first exhibition which draws from the recent acquisition of the Richard H. and Adeline J. Fleischaker Collection, which includes five Scholders.

“The concept is to place aspects of our permanent collection in a larger context,” says Tooperzer. “We thought Scholder, who is such a prominent figure in contemporary art, was a perfect place to begin.”

In contrast to the Yoch’s soft, subtle mediums, Fritz Scholder favors color above all else as a means of personal expression. While his work has focused on the human figure, he is most well-known for his depictions of the American Indian. He comes from mixed Native American and European descent, and his large body of work suggests a wide range of interests. However, the label “Indian artist,” which he considers limiting, stuck when he painted an Indian series upon his arrival in Santa Fe in the 1960’s.

This selection of works represents various stages in Scholder’s career, but there is a consistent style based on the tradition of European modernism.

In conjunction with the Scholder exhibition and SummerWind, the museum will present Cool Spot/Hot Color, a hands-on museum experience July 2 and 3 from 10:30 to noon at the museum for children ages 5 to 8.

The exhibitions continue through September 7, 1997. Summer hours are from noon to 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Sundays. For more information about programs, some of which require reservations, or accommodations on the basis of disability, call 325-3272 or visit our website at www.ou.edu/fijma.

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