FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Museum to Host Events Fostering Dialogue on Native Art

NORMAN – Identity and culture are central in works by contemporary Native artists. Nancy Marie Mithlo, associate professor of art history and visual arts at Occidental College and chair of American Indian studies at the Autry National Center Institute, will present a lecture discussing these narratives at 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 5, at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art.

The conversation will continue at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10, with a walking tour of Enter the Matrix: Indigenous Printmakers, an exhibition currently on display at the museum, led by W. Jackson Rushing III, Adkins Presidential Professor of Art History and Mary Lou Milner Carver Chair in Native American Art at the University of Oklahoma School of Art and Art History.

Enter the Matrix: Indigenous Printmakers joins work from the museum’s permanent collection with work on loan from such private collections as Crow’s Shadow Institute (Oregon), Melanie Yazzie (Colorado) and the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. The exhibition explores how printmaking has become a matrix for cultural and artistic exchange, the critical sites of engagement and key figures.

Talk Back/Back Talk: Native Art’s Visual Re-mix will take a look at Native art and culture. Using images from Enter the Matrix, Mithlo will discuss how artists are creating images that promote self-determination and foster dialogue about issues of culture and identity that contribute to cultural survival. As a curator, teacher, photographic archivist and critic, Mithlo explores how distinct identities are negotiated, and how history is chronicled through the visualization of culture.

During the gallery talk, Rushing will provide a walking tour of Enter the Matrix and offer feedback about select works and artists. Admission to both events is complimentary and open to the public.

The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art is located in the OU Arts District on the corner of Elm Avenue and Boyd Street, at 555 Elm Ave., on the OU Norman campus. Admission to the museum is complimentary to all visitors, thanks to a generous
gift from the OU Athletics Department. Information and accommodations on the basis of disability are available by calling (405) 325-4938 or visiting www.ou.edu/fjima.

###