FJJMA Screens Films as Part of 1946 Art Exhibition May 3, 17

NORMAN – The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art celebrates American art by screening two classic films that premiered in 1946, the year the exhibition Art Interrupted also premiered. The public is invited to view these films in conjunction with the exhibition, which closes June 9.

The museum will show the first film, Notorious, directed by Alfred Hitchcock, at 6 p.m. Friday, May 3. Following the conviction of her German father for treason against the United States, a woman is approached by a government agent who asks her to spy on a group of her father’s Nazi friends operating out of Rio de Janeiro.

The second film, screening at 6 p.m. Friday, May 17, is The Stranger, directed by Orson Welles. An investigator from the War Crimes Commission travels to Connecticut to find an infamous Nazi.

In 1946, the U.S. State Department assembled an exhibition of modernist paintings created by contemporary American artists. The intent was to show the world America’s artistic coming of age, highlighting the freedom of expression enjoyed by artists in the United States. The result was Advancing American Art, an exhibition designed to combat Communism but deemed un-American by members of the U.S. Congress and President Harry S. Truman.

The newly reassembled version of this exhibition, Art Interrupted: Advancing American Art and the Politics of Cultural Diplomacy, draws from the permanent collections of 10 museums, private collectors and other public institutions and includes most of the original works from Advancing American Art. The exhibition opened at the art museum at the University of Oklahoma March 2 and is on display through June 9.

Art Interrupted: Advancing American Art and the Politics of Cultural Diplomacy is
organized by the Jule Collins Smith Museum at Auburn University, the Georgia Museum of Art at the University of Georgia and the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art at OU and was made possible by grants from the Henry Luce Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts as part of American Masterpieces: Three Centuries of Artistic Genius. This program also is made possible, in part, by the Norman Arts Council Grant Program.

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 the generosity of the OU Office of the President and the OU Athletics Department. The museum is closed on Mondays. Information and accommodations on the basis of disability are available by calling (405) 325-4938 or visiting www.ou.edu/fjjma.

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**IMAGE CREDIT**

The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art will screen two 1946 classic films May 3 and 17 to celebrate the year the exhibition *Art Interrupted: Advancing American Art and the Politics of Cultural Diplomacy* also premiered, including *The Stranger*, the movie poster for which is shown here.