August 12, 2008
*** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

EXHIBITION:  Artists of the Great Lakes, 1910-1960

DATES:  September 2 through November 2, 2008

OPENING RECEPTION:  Thursday, September 4, 2008, 5-7 p.m.
Speaker:  John Henry, Director, Flint Institute of Arts, 6 p.m.
Free and open to the public

LOCATION:  Kresge Art Museum
Michigan State University Campus, East Lansing, MI

Artists of the Great Lakes, 1910-1960
Showcases Paintings by Outstanding
20th Century Midwest Artists
Kresge Art Museum, MSU

EAST LANSING, MI — The Kresge Art Museum hosts a collection of thirty-seven paintings, on loan from the Flint Institute of Arts (FIA), which chronicle life in the upper Midwest in the first part of the 20th century. An opening reception for the exhibition will be held on Thursday, September 4, from 5 to 7 p.m., with a talk by John Henry, FIA Director, at 6 p.m.

The exhibition examines the unique “local style” of the Great Lakes region by artists from Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and New York who were active in the American Regionalist art movement during the first half of the twentieth century. Their work offers a glimpse into everyday life in the Midwest of this time, including scenes along the shorelines of the Great Lakes, powerful depictions of the region’s industry and commerce, and memorable portraits of Midwestern people in urban and rural settings.

Nationally known artists such as Hughie Lee Smith, John Steuart Curry, Aaron Bohrod, Adolph Dehn, Charles Burchfield, and Edmund Lewandowski are included as well as marvelous but more locally known artists such as Zoltan Zepeshy, Carlos Lopez and Charles Culver. Whatever the artists’ perspectives-- support for the working people, sympathy for the poor, love of farming or the city — all the paintings celebrate life in America in all its complexity.

Kresge Art Museum is located in East Lansing, MI, on the first floor of the Kresge Art Center at the intersection of Physics and Auditorium Roads between the Alumni Chapel and the MSU Auditorium on the campus of Michigan State University. The museum is closed in August, and reopens to the public on September 2, 2008. September through May, museum hours are Monday through Friday, 10 to 5 p.m., Thursday until 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. For additional information, call (517) 355-7631 or visit www.artmuseum.msu.edu.

Editor’s Note: High-resolution images are available upon request for publicity purposes.

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