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**New Amiotte Art Exhibit Opening Saturday in Cultural Heritage Center;
Special “Meet the Artist & Catalog Signing” event to be held April 26**

PIERRE, S.D. – The Museum of the South Dakota State Historical Society will debut its new exhibit, entitled “Transformation & Continuity in Lakota Culture: The Collages of Arthur Amiotte, 1988-2014” on Saturday, April 19, in the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre.

The exhibit, located in the Marvis T. and Florence Brown Hogen Gallery, explores the recent work of South Dakota native and Lakota artist Arthur Amiotte, whose career in art spans over five decades. The display is a retrospective of Amiotte’s work using the collage process.

“We are very excited to host this exhibition,” commented Jay Smith, museum director. “We have been working closely with Arthur Amiotte for the past 16 months on this project. He chose us to be the debut site for the exhibition, and it has been an honor for us to work closely with him.”

As part of the exhibit, Amiotte provides insight into his design inspiration and his processes. Over 50 original and reproduced works will be on display including those borrowed from other museums and private collections from around the country.

One of Amiotte’s inspirations is the Standing Bear muslin from the Museum of the State Historical Society’s collection. The original muslin will be on display, with a description and interpretation provided by Amiotte.

“Mr. Amiotte is an internationally known artist and a South Dakota treasure,” said Smith, “One of his collages ‘Wounded Knee 3’ is actually touring with the international exhibit ‘The Plains Indians’ along with our Sioux Horse Effigy.”

A reproduction of “Wounded Knee 3” is included in the exhibition. “The Plains Indians: Artists of Earth and Sky” is now on display at the Musee du quai Branly in Paris, France, through July 20.

In addition, the South Dakota State Historical Society Press has published a catalog connected with the Amiotte exhibit. The catalog will be available at the Heritage Store in the Cultural Heritage Center beginning April 26.

Admission to the exhibit is included in the regular admission fee, which is \$4 for ages 18-and-older and \$3 for ages 60-and-older. Children 17-and-younger and members of the State Historical Society are always free. Museum hours are 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. CDT

Monday-Saturday and 1-4:30 on Sundays. The Cultural Heritage Center will be closed Easter Sunday.

On Saturday, April 26, the museum will host a special "Meet the Artist & Catalog Signing" with Amiotte from 10-11 a.m. and from 1-3 p.m. Catalogs may be purchased at the Heritage Store inside the Cultural Heritage Center. There is no fee to attend the event, and refreshments will be available to visitors.

The Amiotte exhibit closes at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre on Aug. 24. The exhibit will then travel to four other museums in South Dakota over the next 21 months. It will be at The Heritage Center at the Red Cloud Indian School from Sept. 10 – Dec. 15; the Washington Pavillion in Sioux Falls from Dec. 26, 2014 – April 26, 2015; the Akta Lakota Museum in Chamberlain from May 5 – Oct. 1, 2015; and the Dahl Arts Center in Rapid City from Oct. 10, 2015 – Jan. 6, 2016.

For more information, visit www.history.sd.gov or call (605) 773-3458.

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The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Tourism. The Department of Tourism is comprised of Tourism, the South Dakota Arts Council and the State Historical Society. The Department is led by Secretary James D. Hagen. The State Historical Society, an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is headquartered at the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. The center houses the society's world-class museum, the archives, and the historic preservation, publishing and administrative/development offices. Call (605) 773-3458 or visit www.history.sd.gov for more information. The society also has an archaeology office in Rapid City; call (605) 394-1936 for more information.