

# You Are Invited!

Merkel Family Foundation Spring 2015 | Distinguished Lecture Series

presents

## **Andrew Patrick Nelson, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor of Film History and Critical Studies School of Film and Photography Montana State University, Bozeman

John Wayne in *Chisum* (1970, © Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc.)

# John Wayne, Cowgirl Cats and the New Golden Age of Westerns

## 7 p.m. Thursday, March 26, 2015

open to the public with no admission charge

### Mary Eddy and Fred Jones Auditorium Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art 555 Elm Ave., Norman, OK 73019-3003 in the OU Arts District

Reception to follow in the Sandy Bell Gallery, Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art



CHARLES M. RUSSELL CENTER for the Study of Art of the American West



THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

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#### John Wayne, Cowgirl Cats and the New Golden Age of Westerns

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Sharon Burchett (405) 325-5939; russellcenter@ou.edu

NORMAN, OKLA. (February 19, 2015) – Andrew Patrick Nelson, Ph.D., and Assistant Professor of Film History and Critical Studies at Montana State University's School of Film and Photography, in Bozeman, will deliver a public lecture titled "John Wayne, Cowgirl Cats and the New Golden Age of Westerns," on **Thursday, March 26, at 7 p.m., in the Mary Eddy and Fred Jones Auditorium of the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art**, 555 Elm Ave., in the *OU Arts District*. The illustrated lecture is open to the public with no admission charge and is presented by the OU School of Art and Art History's Charles M. Russell Center for the Study of Art of the American West, as part of the Merkel Family Foundation Distinguished Lecture Series.

While several scholars have suggested the decline of the western film genre since "Hollywood's Golden Age," Dr. Nelson instead argues that we are currently in a New Golden Age of Westerns, one characterized by diverse and diffuse – and increasingly digital – contexts of production and reception. Focusing on the period from the 1970s to the present, he will outline the shift toward specialization within the genre and the creation of the New Golden Age of Westerns.

Dr. Nelson's monograph, *Still in the Saddle: The Hollywood Western 1969-1980*, is currently being published by the University of Oklahoma Press. Additionally, he is the editor of the compendium, *Contemporary Westerns: Film and Television since 1990* (Scarecrow Press, 2013), and his expertise is to be featured in the forthcoming Fox News Channel documentary series *Legends and Lies: Into the West*. Dr. Nelson's research covers a variety of topics in American popular cinema and he is regarded as a specialist on "the Western." Prior to his teaching at Montana State University, Dr. Nelson served as a Visiting Scholar at the Bill Lane Center for the American West at Stanford University.

Founded in 1998, the Charles M. Russell Center for the Study of Art of the American West is the first such university-based program in the nation. The center is dedicated to the pursuit and dissemination of knowledge in the field of American art history as it relates to the western United States. Through its resource holdings, national symposia, lecture series, course offerings and outreach programs, the Russell Center actively engages students and the public in

developing a better understanding of, and appreciation for, 19th- and 20th-century Euro-American and Native American artistic traditions. Special focus is given to the art of Charles M. Russell and his contemporaries. For more information on the Russell Center, visit the resources section of art.ou.edu. For accommodations on the basis of disability, call (405) 325-5939.

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**Editors:** please find attached accompanying images with the following credit information: John Wayne in *Chisum* (1970, © Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc.)

