

DEPRESSION-ERA  
REGIONALISM  
IN WESTERN AMERICAN ART,  
PHOTOGRAPHY, AND FILM

**The Charles M. Russell Center**

for the Study of Art of the American West  
presents the


**EIGHTH BIENNIAL SYMPOSIUM**

**9 A.M. – 4 P.M. FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2014**

Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art  
555 Elm Avenue  
Norman, OK 73019-3003

**FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
IN THE OU ARTS DISTRICT!**

For more information, to make reservations for the optional lunch, or for accommodations on the basis of disability, please call us at **(405) 325-5939** or visit us online at **[ou.edu/russellcenter](http://ou.edu/russellcenter)**.

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Dorothea Lange, "Refugee Families Encamped Near Holtville, California." March 1937. Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, FSA/OWI Collection [LC-DIG-ppmsca-12884].

**GUEST SPEAKERS:**

**FRANCINE CARRARO, PH.D.**

Museum Director, Wichita Falls Museum of Art  
at Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, TX

**MICHAEL DUCHEMIN, PH.D.**

Executive Director, C.M. Russell Museum,  
Great Falls, MT

**JAMES R. SWENSEN, PH.D.**

Assistant Professor of Art History and the History  
of Photography, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

**JASON WEEMS, PH.D.**

Assistant Professor, History of Art Department,  
College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences,  
University of California, Riverside

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

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University of Oklahoma  
School of Art and Art History

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**In the OU Arts District!**

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EIGHTH BIENNIAL SYMPOSIUM  
Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art ♦ Friday, March 28, 2014

## ABOUT THE CHARLES M. RUSSELL CENTER

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, which opened to the public in fall 1999, 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 national symposia and lectures, resource center, course offerings, book series, and related outreach program, the Russell Center actively engages students and the public in developing a better understanding of, and appreciation for, 19<sup>th</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup> century Euro-American and Native American artistic traditions. Special focus is given to the art of Charles M. Russell and his contemporaries.

The Russell Center was established at the University of Oklahoma concurrently with an endowed professorship in art history, the Charles Marion Russell Memorial Chair. Both the center and the endowed chair were made possible through a generous gift from the Nancy Russell Trust and matching funds from the State of Oklahoma.

The Russell Center, as an integral part of the OU School of Art and Art History and the OU Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts, is both a facility and a program designed to inspire and excite interest in the study of American western art, an aesthetic history that enjoys both a regional and national dimension. While a branch of American art, western art also incorporates European artistic traditions that have, over time, been adapted to themes, experiences and environments unique to the western United States. Art of the American West also encompasses Native American cultures, both as subjects of art and creative forces. For them, the West was something spiritual as well as corporeal, a sacred domain as well as a common home. During much of America's history, the West also was a myth, a dream, an inspiration, a collection of individual experiences, a process of westering and a destination. The center's course of study in art of the American West seeks to discover what the West symbolized – and to whom and why.

Visitors to the Russell Center have access to an ever-growing collection of scholarly resources on art of the American West and Native American art. The center houses books, periodical and newsletter titles, video and audio items, dissertations and theses, archival materials, artist papers and one-of-a-kind files. Additionally, the center owns a few original artworks by historic and contemporary western artists and is home to more than 100 early prints of paintings by Charles M. Russell.

For more information on the Charles M. Russell Center, please visit us online at [ou.edu/russellcenter](http://ou.edu/russellcenter).

## FRIDAY, MARCH 28

9 - 9:30 a.m.

### CHECK-IN

9:30 – 10 a.m.

### B. BYRON PRICE

Director, Charles M. Russell Center  
and University of Oklahoma Press  
*Opening Remarks*

10 – 10:45 a.m.

### FRANCINE CARRARO, PH.D.

Museum Director, Wichita Falls Museum of Art  
at Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, TX  
*Jerry Bywaters: An American Regionalist Artist*

11 – 11:45 a.m.

### JAMES R. SWENSEN, PH.D.

Assistant Professor of Art History and the History  
of Photography, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT  
*America to Americans: FSA Photography  
and the Erasure of the American Region*

Noon – 1:30 p.m.

### LUNCHEON (Sandy Bell Gallery)

1:45 – 2:30 p.m.

### MICHAEL DUCHEMIN, PH.D.

Executive Director, C.M. Russell Museum,  
Great Falls, MT  
*New Deal Cowboy: Gene Autry and Public Diplomacy*

2:45 – 3:30 p.m.

### JASON WEEMS, PH.D.

Assistant Professor, History of Art Department,  
College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences,  
University of California, Riverside  
*Jeffersonian Urbanism:  
Frank Lloyd Wright's Aerial and Regional Visions*

3:45 – 4 p.m.

### CLOSING REMARKS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

CONTACT: Sharon Burchett  
(405) 325-5939  
russellcenter@ou.edu

**DEPRESSION-ERA REGIONALISM IN WESTERN AMERICAN  
ART, PHOTOGRAPHY, AND FILM**

NORMAN, OKLA. (March 10, 2014) – “Depression-Era Regionalism in Western American Art, Photography, and Film,” the eighth biennial symposium of the Charles M. Russell Center for the Study of Art of the American West at the University of Oklahoma, will take place on Friday, March 28, in the Mary Eddy and Fred Jones Auditorium of the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art, 555 Elm Ave., in the *OU Arts District*.

Beginning at 9 a.m., this daylong event is free and open to the public, with a nominal charge for an optional luncheon. Noted museum directors and art historians will offer a multi-faceted discussion of Western American Regionalism during the era of the Great Depression.

Symposium speakers include:

- Francine Carraro, Ph.D., museum director at Wichita Falls Museum of Art at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, TX, who will discuss “Jerry Bywaters: An American Regional Artist”;
- Michael Duchemin, Ph.D., executive director at the C.M. Russell Museum in Great Falls, MT, who will speak on “New Deal Cowboy: Gene Autry and Public Diplomacy”;
- James R. Swensen, Ph.D., assistant professor of art history and the history of photography at Brigham Young University, Provo UT, who will discuss “America to Americans: FSA Photography and the Erasure of the American Region”; and

- Jason Weems, Ph.D., assistant professor at the History of Art Department, College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences of the University of California, Riverside, who will speak on “Jeffersonian Urbanism: Frank Lloyd Wright’s Aerial and Regional Visions”.

A luncheon will be offered between sessions for registered participants. Cost is \$20 per person or \$10 per registered student participant. Vegetarian and vegan options may be ordered in advance. Seating is limited, and reservations may be made with the Russell Center at (405) 325-5939.

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For more information on the Russell Center, visit [ou.edu/russellcenter](http://ou.edu/russellcenter). For accommodations on the basis of disability at the symposium, call (405) 325-5939.

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Image Credit Line:

**Dorothea Lange, “Refugee Families Encamped Near Holtville, California.” March 1937. Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, FSA/OWI Collection [LC-DIG-ppmsca-12884].**



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