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NEWS

For immediate release

Ouachita to exhibit prints by noted photographer Andrè Kertész Sept. 21-Nov. 10

By Anna Hurst

September 21, 2015

For more information, contact OBU's news bureau at newsbureau@obu.edu or (870) 245-5208

ARKADELPHIA, Ark.—Ouachita Baptist University's Department of Visual Arts will host an exhibit of prints by noted Hungarian American photographer Andrè Kertész Sept. 21-Nov. 10. The exhibit will be displayed in the Rosemary Gossett Adams Gallery on the first floor of Moses-Provine Hall on Ouachita's campus, and it is free and open to the public.

Kertész, whose work spans several decades, is considered a leader in making street photography an art. He is also widely respected for his revolutionary contributions to photojournalism and photographic composition. The ability to take the camera out of the studio came into existence just as Kertész's career was beginning and his unique street style set him apart from others in his field.

In 1925, he moved from Hungary to Paris and worked for their first illustrated magazine, *VU*, gaining a reputation in the magazine industry. In World War II, he moved to the United States where he continued to establish himself through commissioned and magazine-related work. Eventually, he returned to the more artistic aspects of photography, earning widespread international recognition.

"He was really one of the founders of being able to take the camera out into the street and photograph people as they live," said Ferris Williams, OBU assistant professor of visual arts and curator of the exhibit. "I think his eye for composition and for the shot, those fleeting moments, was something that really stood out."

About 20 numbered prints will be included in the exhibit. The prints are part of a collection donated to Ouachita by the Allen Tillery family of Hot Springs. This is the second exhibit of works from the collection to be displayed at Ouachita. The collection includes pieces from a wide array of art styles and eras and is valued at more than \$250,000.

"For a school Ouachita's size and for a community like Arkadelphia, it is a great thing to have," Williams said. "You don't have to go to a large city museum to see art of this caliber, which is nice."

The Department of Visual Arts utilizes the pieces not only for display purposes, but also as educational tools.

"In my case, with these Kertész prints, I definitely plan on discussing things like composition because he is just such an amazing photographer when it comes to composing and finding the moment, this mysterious moment," Williams said. "I can also even talk about printmaking. It's definitely valuable to have access to that."

Regular exhibit hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, contact Ferris Williams at williamsf@obu.edu or (870) 245-5565.