

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For immediate release, please use any time until 09/03/17

Stauth Memorial Museum Contact:

Kim Legleiter, Director,  
620.846.2527,

[stauthm@ucom.net](mailto:stauthm@ucom.net)

[www.stauthmemorialmuseum.org](http://www.stauthmemorialmuseum.org)



## Two Amazing Exhibits Chosen for the Summer

MONTEZUMA, KS --- The Stauth Memorial Museum will be hosting two very special exhibitions over the summer. They are vastly different in technique, content, and scope of work yet they are similar in the astonishing detail, complexity, and the extraordinary skill needed to create each work of art. These exhibits will open on **June 11<sup>th</sup>** and be on display until **September 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

**Exquisite Miniatures: The Art of Wes & Rachelle Siegrist** —Wes & Rachelle are an American husband and wife team who mesmerize viewers with miniature paintings so exquisitely crafted that they are often mistaken for tiny photographs. These “tiny treasures” typically measure less than 9 square inches and appear even more detailed when viewed under magnification! The exhibition consists of 50 signature paintings including portraits, landscapes, wildlife and still-lives and more. They both have the incredible ability to convey the feeling of a larger canvass in miniature.

The Siegrist have been referred to as “World Ambassadors for Miniature Art.” They are the authors of the world’s first standard definition of miniature art adopted by the Association of Miniaturist Artists. The exhibition is accompanied by a book of the same title about Wes and Rachelle Siegrist and their art, with an introduction by David J. Wagner. **Exquisite Miniatures** is produced by *David J. Wagner, L.L.C.*, with company President, *David J. Wagner, Ph.D.*, serving as *Curator/Tour Director*.

**Unique, Creative Visions: The Art of Jessie Montes** -- Jessie, a western Kansas folk artist, creates his artwork from corrugated paperboard (cardboard). With no schooling in art, and no previous history of art-making, Mr. Montes created complex visual statements with simple materials.

Over 60 years ago Jessie, the only survivor of five sets of twins, migrated to the United States from Mexico. Having no formal education, Montez worked as a custodian for the Dodge City school district. When Montes’ son and daughter were called to duty for the Persian Gulf War, he quickly tried to find a way to relax. “One day I just started cutting cardboard,” said Montes. “I eventually made a picture frame for my sons photograph,” said Montes. Soon he started experimenting with different designs and themes as well as different types of cardboard.

He began to fill in the frames with landscapes, designs and portraits. Three dimensional sculptures came soon thereafter and his artistic career in this unique medium was launched. Using only modest tools of cardboard cut in 1/4" strips, tweezers, a sharp razor blade and paste, his subject matter includes a mixture of ethnic and social influences, architectural themes, and popular culture. His work varies from portraiture to landscape, it sometimes includes architecture and it always functions as excellent abstraction. In other words, the work is totally consistent, but also has incredible range. *Jessie Montes (1935-2013)*

We are expecting many groups for this exhibit, so please call in advance to schedule groups of 5 or more. Tours/groups welcome by appointment, contact 620-846-2527 for information or to set up a tour. Museum hours: Tue -Sat 9-12 1-4:30, Sun 1:30-4:30. We are closed on Mondays and all major holidays including Independence Day. Admission is free, but donations are gratefully accepted to help pay for this outstanding, once-in-a-lifetime exhibit! Check out our website at [www.stauthmemorialmuseum.org](http://www.stauthmemorialmuseum.org) for information about this and all of the exciting new exhibits coming to the Stauth Memorial Museum!