Exhibit Schedule

Party in the 21st Century
(Jan. 18 – April 19, 2020)
The “parta” is an elaborative headband, the plural of which is “party”. This festive and ceremonial hair styling was mainly reserved for brides on their wedding day, always richly decorated and unique in every region of Slovakia. This collection contains stunning portraits in which the audience can see nearly extinct “party” and wreaths from all over Slovakia.

Heritage Caretakers of Moravia
(Feb. 27 – June 14, 2020)
Heritage Caretakers of Moravia will tell the story of the incredible women who wear and use folk art practices in their daily life. The exhibition is presented through the eyes of Czech-American artist, Sonya Darrow, who worked with the women in south Moravia in order to preserve cultural heritage for future generations, and to use their stories to inspire Czech settlements in the USA. The exhibit also explores the current state of the folk art movement to keep the ‘everyday’ folk dress (všední kroj) along with the working folk dress (pracovní kroj) from disappearing, and to discuss the topic of sustainable folk art practices.

Artists as Activists
(March 28 – Sept. 20, 2020)
Artists as Activists features artists who are responding to political oppression through their work. Seeking their own independent expression, they often inadvertently position themselves to oppose reigning doctrines during times when ruling powers are oppressing large segments of populations, even whole countries, from creating a more just and equitable future. The exhibit brings the works of internationally recognized contemporary artists to the NCSML, including Ai Weiwei’s Lego portrait, Emily Jacir’s Munir, and Tania Bruguera’s Tatlin’s Whisper; most which have never been on display in Iowa.

A Century of Robots: From Čapek to Now
(May 16 – Oct. 25, 2020)
The exhibition marks the 100th anniversary of Karel Čapek’s play, R.U.R., in 2020. It will highlight Karel Čapek’s life and works, the play R.U.R., and the resulting mania for robots we have seen in that last 100 years. Partnering with the NCSML Education Department, local high school students will read the play and then design and build a robot. This creation will also be featured in the exhibition.

Support for the NCSML Exhibition Fund comes from Joyce and John Anderson. Exhibits are sponsored in part by Western Fraternal Life.

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