



## **Navajo Weaving: Diamonds, Dreams, Landscapes**

Programming Description

Thursday, May 28, 2009 • 7:00 PM

### ***Exhibition tour***

Changing Gallery

### **By invitation only.**

Ann Hedlund, Director, The Gloria F. Ross Center for Tapestry Studies, Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona

Judy Newland, Curator of exhibitions, Arizona State University and Guest Curator of the exhibit *Navajo Weaving: Diamonds, Dreams, Landscapes*.

Ann Hedlund and Judy Newland will conduct this special tour of the exhibition.

Space is limited. RSVP is required.

Light refreshments will be served.

Friday, May 29, 2009 • 6:00 PM

Paleontology Gallery

### ***Recent Trends in Navajo Weaving (And How Well Did Joe Ben Wheat Predict Them?)***

Ann Hedlund, Director, The Gloria F. Ross Center for Tapestry Studies, Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona

The woven artistry of Navajo weavers today shows many connections to the past, even as it reflects lively modern influences. This lecture will highlight the exciting ways in which contemporary weavers combine tradition and innovation. Playing off the dynamic textiles shown in the exhibition "Navajo Weaving: Diamonds, Dreams, Landscapes" curated by Judy Newland, Dr. Hedlund will discuss weaving styles and weavers' lifestyles in the 20th and 21st centuries.

Current trends will be illustrated and then compared with some of the traits that fascinated textile scholar Joe Ben Wheat (1916-1997) while he was University of Colorado Museum of Natural History esteemed curator of anthropology (1953-1997). Join us to see how well his predictions for the future of Navajo weaving have held up. Are weavers today making rugs and tapestries that would have surprised even this forward-looking expert? And what might today's hot new trends suggest about the next decades of Native American weaving?

About Dr. Ann Hedlund:

After conducting ethnographic fieldwork with weavers around the Navajo Nation, Ann Lane

Hedlund received her PhD in cultural anthropology from UC-Boulder in 1983. Dr. Joe Ben Wheat chaired her doctoral committee. From 1979 to 1984 she worked at the University of Colorado Museum and has returned to campus numerous times as Research Associate. Among her many publications, she edited, compiled and published Joe Ben Wheat's posthumous book, *Blanket Weaving in the Southwest* (University of Arizona Press, 2003). Currently, Dr. Hedlund is director of the Gloria F. Ross Center for Tapestry Studies, curator of ethnology at Arizona State Museum, and professor of anthropology at University of Arizona in Tucson.

Thursday, September 17, 2009 • 6:00 PM

Paleontology Hall

***Lights Out! Movie Series***

***Weaving Worlds*** (2007, 57 min.) US Director: Bennie Klain (Navajo) *In Navajo and English with English subtitles.*

Weaving Worlds highlights Navajo tales of how the west was spun, exploring the personal stories of Navajo weavers and their complex relationship with reservation traders. The film examines the delicate balance between cultural survival, economic independence, and artistic motivation evident in the everyday lives of Navajo weavers. While their creations are highly valued and collected around the world, foremost for weavers is the constant quest for cultural continuity through creating their textiles and the effects of globalization on their land, their sheep, and their livelihoods.

Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 • 6:00 PM

Paleontology Hall

Melanie Yazzie, Professor, Art Department, UCB

***Images from My American Indian Experience***

The printmaking, ceramic works, and paintings that Yazzie creates challenge the dominant culture's portrayal of American Indians. Through her art making, she examines both internal and external influences on American Indian people and her family.

Wednesday, November 4, 2009 • 6:00 PM

Paleontology Hall

Jackson Clark II, Director, Toh-Atin Gallery

***"Threads Through Time," the Story of Navajo Weaving.***

Paleontology Hall, University of Colorado Museum

H. Jackson Clark II, the owner of Toh-Atin Gallery in Durango, Colorado will talk about the history of the Navajo people and the corresponding development of the art form of Navajo weaving. Clark's talk is a combination of personal and family experiences combined with a collected knowledge gained from working with Navajo weavers, traders and museums for over forty years. A storyteller more than a lecturer, Clark's presentation is full of humor, compassion and insight into this unique American art form.

Friday, February 5, 2010 • 6:00 PM

Paleontology Hall

Morris Muskett, Navajo weaver and jeweler.

***Hozhoo: Art by Morris Muskett.***

Art by Morris is created in both wool and metal and it represents the cultural duality that makes up *hozho*. On a deeper level, this duality also represents Female and Male, and soft goods and hard goods, which are important cultural aspects to Morris's Diné culture.

Wednesday, March 10, 2010 • 6.00 PM

Paleontology Hall

***Lights Out! Movie Series***

***Miss Navajo*** (2006, 60 min.) Director: William Luther (Navajo/Hopi/Laguna Pueblo)

No ordinary beauty pageant, the Miss Navajo Nation competition requires contestants to answer tough historical questions in the Navajo language and showcase traditional knowledge. The filmmaker, whose mother was crowned Miss Navajo in 1966, goes along on one contender's journey and interviews winners from the past five decades. The event's sacred dimension also emerges—young women are joining a matriarchal continuum that goes back to creation and the first Diné life-giving ancestor, Changing Woman.