

## Missoula Art Museum Receives Gift of Major Artwork Large-scale installation to remain in Missoula permanently

Missoula, MT / October 18, 2007 / Missoula Art Museum (MAM) / The Unabomber and the Dukes of Hazzard have a permanent home in Missoula. MAM has received a gift of a significant artwork for the MAM permanent art collection, a sculpture entitled *Pause: The Dukes of Hazzard '69 Charger and Ted Kaczynski's Montana Cabin*. The sculpture is a ¾-scale all-wood model of the Dukes's famous car crashing through the roof of the iconic Lincoln, Montana cabin, made in 2004 by Chris Larson of St. Paul, Minnesota.



*Pause* is featured in MAM's current exhibition, *Crash. Pause. Rewind.*, on view through November 24. Seattle collectors William and Ruth True own all of the artworks in the exhibit, and have offered *Pause* to the MAM Collection as a full and unrestricted gift. Through their generous vision, this unique artwork will remain in Missoula permanently.

MAM Curator Stephen Glueckert is inspired by the Trues' generosity and support of "significant work created by artists who push the envelope...The work by Chris Larson helps us continue to fulfill the mission of the museum to educate through contemporary art."

The MAM Collections focus on contemporary art that is relevant to the American west, with an emphasis on Montana artists. Though Larson lives in Minnesota, he addresses the Unabomber events of the 1990s and the sensational manipulation of the image of Kaczynski's isolated cabin. *Pause* captures the collision of fact and fiction: an essential element to Montana's past and present character. *Pause* is rightly placed in the MAM Collections, and like all collection works, will be exhibited periodically in the museum's expanded galleries.

Rocky Mountain Moving and Storage, a Missoula-based business, has offered a generous in-kind contribution toward the long-term storage of this sizeable artwork. "Our building expansion in 2006 included a vault where we can accommodate thousands of artworks, but we never dreamed an opportunity like this would come our way," says MAM Curator of Collections Jennifer Reifsneider. "Thankfully, with support from the local business community, we can rise to the occasion."

High quality images of the work are available for publication. William and Ruth True may be available for interviews. Please contact MAM for assistance.

Contact: Jennifer Reifsneider, Registrar / Curator of Collections, 406.728.0447 x222, [jenn@missoulaartmuseum.org](mailto:jenn@missoulaartmuseum.org)

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**About MAM:** FREE EXPRESSION / FREE ADMISSION. MAM educates, challenges and inspires the community through contemporary art. MAM preserves our emerging cultural heritage through the development and conservation of its art collection. Founded in 1975 and accredited by the American Association of Museums since 1987, MAM showcases diverse and thought-provoking contemporary artwork from local and international artists. Gallery Hours: Tues-Sat, 11AM-5PM. Office hours: Mon-Fri, 9AM-5PM.