



## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

# **John Thompson: A Celebration** Through June 20, 2015 Saturday + Demonstration: May 16, 10 AM-12 PM

Missoula, MT / December 17, 2014 / Missoula Art Museum (MAM) / In celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the Carousel for Missoula, MAM is excited to host one of the gifted artists who made this project a reality. John Thompson was trained as a printmaker, has taught MAM art classes, and became involved in the carousel project nearly 25 years ago. Initially John was asked to draw a horse as a template for the carvers. He soon started carving himself, and he has never stopped. He became involved in most of the creative vision and planning and drawing of one of Missoula's most treasured cultural icons. Thompson says, "I believe the carousel to be Missoula's best show of what community is about: a most amazing cross-section of people from different walks of life working together." A mix of Thompson's work from his prints to his carvings will be shared in this intimate exhibition celebrating one of Missoula's versatile artists.

Contact: For more information, please contact the Missoula Art Museum at 406.728.0447, visit the MAM website at [www.missoulaartmuseum.org](http://www.missoulaartmuseum.org) or contact Stephen Glueckert, Senior Exhibitions Curator, [stevegl@missoulaartmuseum.org](mailto:stevegl@missoulaartmuseum.org), 406.728.0447 x226.

- END -

About MAM: FREE EXPRESSION / FREE ADMISSION. The Missoula Art Museum strives to engage artists and audience in the creative exploration of contemporary art relevant to our community, state and region. 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: Tuesday- Saturday, 10 AM - 5 PM. Office hours: Mon-Fri, 9AM-5PM.