



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

MAM Collections: Video Artists Holly Andres, Grace Carter, and Gerd Aurell

March 16 - May 29, 2011 // Goldberg Family Library

Dandelion: 7 min 29 sec

Montana is a Harsh Mistress: Slide Film

Missoula, MT / January 13, 2011 / Missoula Art Museum (MAM) / MAM screens two video artworks in the Goldberg Library, to reacquaint visitors with ideas about video art. The videos presented, Holly Andres and Grace Carter's *Dandelion*, and Gerd Aurell's *Montana is a Harsh Mistress*, each tells a painful story but use different means of expression.

Andres and Carter have crafted a beautifully melancholy short film that discusses the deaths of their mothers, accompanied by a soundscape of haunting background music and stream of conscious voice-over. It is impossible to not be moved by the heartbreaking imagery in this lovely film.

Aurell, a Swedish artist that traveled across Montana in 2000, uses stark black and white drawings and text to tell a bittersweet tale of the Montana homesteading experience. Aurell was deeply moved by the plains and prairies of eastern Montana, and struck by the hardscrabble history of the dry land farmers who worked the land. She became enamored by one farmer's almost fatal love of the landscape, documented in the book *Montana's Homestead Era*, and created this series of unpretentious pen-and-ink drawings about the doomed affair.

These two intimate and intelligent explorations show that video does not have to be full of Hollywood bombast and spectacle to create a moving, thoughtful experience.

Contact: For more information please contact the Missoula Art Museum at 406-728-0447, visit the MAM website at www.missoulaartmuseum.org or contact Ted Hughes, Registrar, ted@missoulaartmuseum.org, 406.728.0447 x222.

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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: Wed-Fri, 10AM-5PM, Sat, 10AM-3PM. Office hours: Mon-Fri, 9AM-5PM.