

Museum Presents Major Art Historical Survey of Tahoe

Spanning 200 years, exhibit includes largest ever collection of Washoe baskets

Fine Art — The work of renown Washoe basket weaver Dot-So-La-Lee is a huge feature of the Nevada Museum Art's recently opened exhibit, *TAHOE: A Visual History*. Along with Dot-So-La-Lee, the Native Basketry of Lake Tahoe includes artists: Scees Bryant, Lena Dick and Sarah Mayo. Above, a Dot-So-La-Lee seed gathering basket, circa 1910-14, which is 19x19 inches. The photo was provided by the Nevada Museum of Art. It is a Dot-So-La-Lee or Louisa Keyser, Seed gathering basket, circa 1910-14; of Bronnie and Alan Blaugrund. Collection.



RENO, Nev.—The Nevada Museum of Art has organized the first major art historical survey exhibition of one of American's most beloved landscapes. **TAHOE: A Visual History** spans over two centuries of cultural and creative production related to the second largest freshwater alpine lake in the United States and features more than 400 artworks by painters, photographers, architects, basket weavers, and sculptors. **TAHOE: A Visual History** opened last week and will be on view until Jan. 10. A 488-page book by the same name, co-published with Skira Rizzoli and distributed by Random House, accompanies the exhibit. Five years in the making, **TAHOE: A Visual History** presents historical paintings, Native baskets, photography, architecture, and contemporary art dedicated to Lake Tahoe, Donner Pass, and the surrounding Sierra Nevada region. Nevada Museum of Art senior curator and deputy director Ann M. Wolfe curated the exhibition. "Many books and museum exhibitions have been devoted to the art of American's most scenic and iconic landscapes. Thanks to such scholarship, it is easy to conjure a mental image of the art of Yosemite, Yellow-stone, Niagara Falls, or New York's Hudson Valley," Wolfe said. "The same cannot be said for the vicinity of Lake Tahoe. This exhibition, and accompanying books, surveys the contributions of hundreds of artists who have made work in or about the region." **TAHOE: A Visual History** combines historically significant cultural and art objects with contemporary works inspired by a shared reverence for the region. The exhibition is organized thematically, though somewhat chronologically to encourage dialogue among museum-goers while simultaneously transcribing historical perspective. "Art produced in and about a place helps define its cultural identity," Wolfe said. "Without knowledge or shared understanding of a region's art and history, it is impossible to celebrate or critically examine its contributions to the broader culture." A number of key artworks will punctuate the show, including the largest presentation of baskets by Washoe weaver Dat-So-La-Lee ever displayed in one place. Dat-So-La-Lee is known for her innovative development of the *degikup* basket form that has become synonymous with fine art of Washoe basketry. Along with Dot-So-La-Lee, the Native Basketry of Lake Tahoe includes artists: Scees Bryant, Lena Dick and Sarah Mayo. More than 15 contemporary artists also will be featured. The Nevada Museum of Art is at 160 West Liberty St., in Reno. It is open Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m.—6 p.m., late on Thursdays until 8 p.m. General admission is \$10, students/seniors \$8, children \$1 and free for children under 5. For more information, please call (775) 329-3333.