

September 22, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:

Dr. Scott Dimond, Curator for Visual Arts

(207) 504-7651

Travis Mearns, Public Relations Coordinator

(724) 238-6015

**PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION CLOSSES SAMA'S SPECIAL 40TH
ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION CALENDAR**

Loretto – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Loretto will close out its 40th anniversary exhibition calendar with *Forty Phenomenal Photos: Photographic Treasures from the SAMA Permanent Collection*. The exhibition opens October 21 in the Margery Wolf-Kuhn Balcony Gallery and will remain on view through January 28, 2017.

Boasting a solid collection of both American and European photographs, SAMA has become one of the region's leading resources for the study and appreciation of photographic art. *Forty Phenomenal Photos* emphasizes the diversity of the Museum's holdings in photography and offers an excellent opportunity to see fragile works that are seldom on view.

Among the 40 photographs on view are a number of true rarities, including a tiny portrait of Walt Whitman by famed painter Thomas Eakins and a period albumen print of Utah's Witches' Rocks by explorer-photographer Carleton E. Watkins. Some of Luke Swank's earliest industrial photographs of Johnstown's steel mills are featured, along with fine WPA-era images by important documentary photographers such as Berenice Abbott and Margaret Bourke-White. From Europe come remarkable works by Edouard Boubat, Andre Kertesz, and Albert Renger-Patzsch, while closer to home there are coal-country images by Jack Barnosky, Larry Fink and Gerald Erro Gutshall. SAMA favorites William H. Rau and Donald M. Robinson also appear, each with striking landscapes in their own distinctive styles. As a whole, *Forty Phenomenal Photos* is an exhibition of notable breadth and beauty, and one well worth attending.

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Loretto is located on the campus of Saint Francis University. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. Saturdays. The Museum is open to the public free of charge. For more information, please call (814) 472-3920 or visit www.sama-art.org.