



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Taka Otsuka, briefcase, 12" x 16" x 3"

Exhibit: ***Master Leather Carving from North American and Japan:
Design and Cultural Influences***

Dates: May 12 to September 5, 2022

Reception: **Friday, May 20, 7 to 9 PM**, in the Jacomien Mars Reception Gallery

The Brinton Museum in Big Horn, Wyoming, presents ***Master Leather Carving from North American and Japan: Design and Cultural Influences***, on exhibit in the Forrest E. Mars, Jr. Building's Jacomien Mars Reception Gallery, beginning May 12. This cross-cultural, outstanding exhibition includes the best of the best leather artisans in the field from North America and Japan. The geneses of this show started several years ago as the vision of Brinton

Museum resident master leather worker and artist, **James F. Jackson** from Sheridan (WY). Jim is a recipient of the highly prestigious 2019 National Endowment for the Arts National Heritage Fellowship Award, 2019 Wyoming Governor's Arts Award and the Al Stohlman Achievement in Leather Craft Award. Jim envisioned an exhibit showcasing exceptionally talented craftsmen in the leather trade from distinctly different cultures. He says, "This exhibition offers an opportunity to compare a variety of floral carving techniques, design and stylistic preferences by talented and highly respected leather artisans. The diversity of the carving on display is a fresh and delightful look at this traditional art form and its intriguing evolution." The Brinton Museum's exhibition comprises 25 carved leather wall panels and a wide diversity of 3-dimensional works which highlight traditional carving and the cross-cultural influences of Sheridan Style carving on Japanese leather artisans. Included is American and Japanese contemporary work of intricately composed designs. Pieces range from exquisite hand bags, vases and a pair of Western boots to a Western table lamp, mandolin case, and more. Saddles by award-winning saddle makers from North America represent a longstanding tradition of elegantly tooled saddles related to the still-alive-today vibrant cowboy culture of the American West.



Mayumi Konno, carved leather panel, 10" x 16"



Michiko Matsuda, leather vase, 12" x 9" x 9"

An illustrated catalog with an introductory essay by James F. Jackson is published in both English and Japanese to accompany this event. ***Master Leather Carving from America and Japan*** is made possible through the kind generosity of charitable sponsors from America and Japan. This show continues at The Brinton Museum through September 5.

Master artisans included in The Brinton Museum's leather show are listed below:

Japan

Taka Otsuka, Seiichi Koyashiki, Akiko Okada, Michiko Matsuda, Koichiro Oyama, Atsushi Kubota, Takahiro Kubo, Kazuki Fujita, Ryuichi Kimura, Naomi Saito, Mayumi Konno, Takeshi Yonezawa, Takeshi Katsumura, Honghao Cai and Lefty Mikuni

North America

Chuck Stormes, Wayne Hape, Gordon Andrus, Bill King, Keith Seidel, Rick Bean, Bob Park, Cary Schwarz, Barry King and Jim Jackson



Rick Bean, Saddlebags



Keith Seidel, Saddle

About The Brinton Museum

Founded in 1960, The Brinton Museum is a fine arts institution devoted to preserving the art and history of the West. Located on the historic Quarter Circle A Ranch in the foothills of the Bighorn Mountains, it features 19th, 20th and 21st century American and Indian Art in a historic Western setting. General admission for 2022 is FREE, made possible by a generous donation from First Interstate Bank. The Brinton is a participating member of the North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM) Association which offers its members free admission during regular museum hours to other participating NARM institutions. **Hours:** Thursday through Monday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. through May. Open Daily, Memorial Day to Labor Day.

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