

# THE DAYTON ART INSTITUTE



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### ANDREW WYETH PAINTING ON VIEW FOR LIMITED TIME AT THE DAYTON ART INSTITUTE

(DAYTON, OHIO) – November 30, 2009 – Andrew Wyeth, arguably one of America's most famous artists, died in 2009 at the age of 91. The Dayton Art Institute is pleased to place on view, for a limited time, Wyeth's painting, *Ring Road* of 1985, in recognition of the artist's enormous legacy.

Wyeth is often described as a “magic realist” painter for his crisp, detailed technique, combined with the otherworldly qualities of mood he brings to his art. He painted the people and places he knew best in Pennsylvania and in Maine. Among these is *Christina's World* of 1948, which hangs at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. Wyeth also achieved a great deal of notoriety in 1986 when he revealed the existence of the so-called Helga pictures, 246 works of art featuring one of his neighbors. He had kept these works hidden for years – even his wife (who was his agent) did not know about them.

*Ring Road* depicts a snow-covered road in Chards Ford where Wyeth lived. At the bottom of the road is a bare tree next to a dilapidated structure. The yellow road sign signaling a curve in the road jumps out of the composition as the only brightly colored element; everything else is silent and gray. Painting the same locations over and over year after year, Wyeth became attuned to the most subtle changes in season, light and atmosphere.

About his painting, Wyeth said, “I go beyond the subject. That’s the summation of my art. Emotion is my bulwark. I think that’s the only thing that endures finally. If you are emotionally involved, you’re not going to be easily changed. But if it’s purely a technical experience, that’s going to be very short-lived. Both technical and emotional have got to be on even terms to be good.”

*Ring Road* is on view in Gallery 204 of the Dicke Wing of American Art. General admission to the museum is **free**, courtesy of the Chase Free Admission Endowment Fund (*please note that special exhibitions and art programs carry an admission fee*). *Ring Road* is on loan to The Dayton Art Institute from a private collection.

For more information about The Dayton Art Institute, please visit [www.daytonartinstitute.org](http://www.daytonartinstitute.org) or call the museum at 937-223-5277. Be sure to also visit The Dayton Art Institute on Facebook ([facebook.com/daytonartinstitute](https://facebook.com/daytonartinstitute)) and Twitter ([twitter.com/daytonart](https://twitter.com/daytonart)) for additional information and exclusive offers.

#### **ABOUT THE DAYTON ART INSTITUTE**

As one of the Miami Valley’s premier fine art museums, The Dayton Art Institute — which is in its 90<sup>th</sup> year — offers a full range of programming in addition to exhibiting its collection. The galleries and Museum Store are open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with extended hours on Thursday until 8 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. Free parking is available at the museum and the facility is fully accessible to physically-challenged visitors. CAFÉ MONET by Elegant Fare serves lunch Tuesday through Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and Sunday, noon – 2:30 p.m. For more information, please call 937-223-4278 or visit [www.daytonartinstitute.org](http://www.daytonartinstitute.org).

*The Ohio Arts Council helped fund this organization with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. The DAI also receives support from the Montgomery County Arts and Cultural District.*

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