

Immediate Release

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Duluth--- One of the most exciting collections of art depicting life in the Western Plains more than a century ago will be displayed at UMD's Tweed Gallery Sept. 15 through Oct. 14.

One-hundred watercolors from the famous Maximilian-Bodmer collection owned by Northern Natural Gas Company of Omaha will first be seen at a formal opening at 8 p.m. Thursday (Sept. 15) in Tweed Gallery.

The City of Duluth Gas Department is co-sponsoring the exhibit along with Northern Natural and Tweed Gallery.

The collection gets its name from Prince Alexander Philip Maximilian, a German naturalist and scientist, and Karl Bodmer, a Swiss-born artist. The two men traveled with fur traders up the Missouri River from St. Louis to Great Falls, Montana in 1833 and 1834.

Prince Maximilian recorded his findings in writing while Bodmer sketched and painted the Indian culture in great detail. Maximilian later published a book "Travels in the Interior of North America" using Bodmer's field sketches.

Maximilian placed the documents and original sketches in the family archives where they were discovered more than 100 years after his death. In 1962, Northern Natural Gas Company obtained the entire collection, including the gun, knapsack and powder pouch used by Prince Maximilian. The collection is permanently housed in Omaha's Joslyn Art Museum.

Tweed Gallery is open from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 2-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.