

Louisiana
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'JOHN JAMES AUDUBON: AMERICAN ARTIST AND NATURALIST'
EXHIBIT AT LOUISIANA STATE EXHIBIT MUSEUM

Secretary of State Jay Dardenne and the Friends of the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum are announcing the opening reception of the "John James Audubon: American Artist and Naturalist" exhibit on Friday, Feb. 8, 2009, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Guest speaker Danny Heitman of Baton Rouge will highlight Audubon's influence in Louisiana. He will also autograph his book "A Summer of Birds," recently published by LSU Press. An award winning columnist for The Baton Rouge Advocate, Heitman contributes essays to national magazines including the Smithsonian.

This traveling exhibit is from a collection in Florida which includes 64 of the large bird prints from printer William Lizars. The first edition was printed in 1826 in Edinburgh and the second edition was printed by Robert Havell in 1827 in London. These editions are also known as the "double elephant size," which are a highly prized and collectible oversized print, and are one of the hallmarks of Audubon's work. The exhibit will also include quadruped prints, letters and personal artifacts belonging to Audubon.

The public is invited to view the exhibit through Wednesday, April 30 during regular museum hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, noon until 4 p.m.

The museum is located at 3015 Greenwood Road, between Hearne and Jewella Streets. Admission is free and tours are available by appointment. The building is wheelchair accessible. For more information about the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum, visit our Web site at www.sos.louisiana.gov/lsem or call 318.632.2020.

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