JOSLYN presents handcrafted mini Medieval castle

OMAHA — From Feb. 4 through May 14 Joslyn Art Museum will present “French Donjons: Castle of Coucy, Medieval Life in Miniature,” featuring a handcrafted, eight-foot high reproduction of the donjon that graced the castle of Coucy, situated about 75 miles northeast of Paris during the 13th and 14th centuries.

Local presentation of the exhibit is made possible in part by Suzanne and Walter Scott and Douglas County commissioners. In the Middle Ages, centuries of conflict between France and England furthered castle building development. The donjon or keep, the residential tower, became the prominent part of castle architecture, always placed at a strategic point where it stood as a symbol of power. This exhibition of the Castle of Coucy donjon is a historically accurate representation researched and built by Society for Medieval Castle Science of Aachen, Germany. The model, created on a scale of 1:25, shows the siege in 1339, when England's King Edward III led an unsuccessful attack against the castle. Story of siege is illustrated with about 2,500 hand-painted figures, representing both defenders and attackers. Medieval life apart from the siege is further depicted within the keep.

For information, call Amy Rummel at (462) 342-3300 or email arummel@joslyn.org.
Back When w/ Perla, Father, Noah's Ark Was a Spaceship
Sokal Underground, 9 p.m., $7
onepercentproductions.com

Back When is not for the faint of heart. Its sound is intense, equipped with dual screaming vocals, dense guitars and a throbbing rhythm section. Listening to the band is a sonic onslaught. Paradoxically, this band has quickly built something formidable in Omaha. Since forming in 2002 it has been on multiple extensive US tours and released five albums under almost everybody's radar. Back When is currently working on material for a new album and a possible split French release with Kentucky band Fox Tongues. Expect to see more progressive metal of the same ilk from the opening acts.

—Jeremy Schmitke

Feb. 4-May 14
French Donjons: Castle of Coucy, Medieval Life in Miniature
Joslyn Art Museum, various times, $4-$7
342-3300, joslyn.org

The first question most people will ask about this show is "What is a donjon?" Answer: A donjon is the high part of a castle where its keeper resides. In medieval France and England, in fact, the donjon became the prominent part of most castle architecture. The heart of this show is a historically accurate model of the donjon from the Coucy Castle, which is northeast of Paris. The castle was home to many powerful nobles and was famous for having the largest donjon ever built in Europe. The model recreates a scene of the castle in the year 1393, when England's King Edward III led an unsuccessful attack against it.

—Sarah Baker

CASTLE OF COUCY
medieval life in miniature

An amazing scale model of the castle at Coucy in France and its grounds during the siege of 1393. Populated with 2,500 individual, crafted figures, this historically accurate castle offers a unique glimpse of life during the Middle Ages.

Made possible in part by Suzanne and Walter Scott, the Douglas County Commissioners, and Energy Systems.

Joslyn Art Museum
One of the "11 Best Art Museums in the Midwest"
2000 Dodge Street • Omaha, NE 68102
402-342-3300 • www.joslyn.org

Now through May 14
One of the
"Ten Best Art Museums For Kids"
in the nation.

---Child magazine, March 2006

Joslyn Art Museum is proud to announce it has been named one of the "Ten Best Art Museums For Kids" by Child magazine following the publication's first-ever data-driven survey of the nation's cultural centers, identifying those that make the visual arts accessible and fun for kids. The survey is the culmination of a four-month investigation, which examined more than 100 museums.

Child Magazine’s Ten Best Art Museums for Kids:

1. The Art Institute of Chicago  •
2. Metropolitan Museum of Art (NY)  •
3. The Dayton Art Institute (Dayton, OH)  •
4. DeYoung, Fine Arts Museum at San Francisco (CA)  •
5. Carnegie Museum of Art (Pittsburgh, PA)  •
6. Los Angeles County Museum of Art (CA)  •
7. Joslyn Art Museum  •
8. Winterthur Museum and Country Estate (Winterthur, DE)  •
9. Dallas Museum of Art (TX)  •
10. Peabody Essex Museum (Salem, MA)  •

Join Joslyn

As a member you will receive the following benefits:

- Free admission to Joslyn during regular hours
- Free admission to ticketed exhibitions
- Invitations to receptions, events, and openings
- Joslyn’s members magazine, a quarterly publication providing advance notice of all special exhibitions and programs
- Reduced prices for art classes and for selected events
- Discounts on admission to music programs
- 10% discount in the Hitchcock Museum Shop and Café Durham
- Subscription discounts on national and international art magazines

General Membership Prices & Categories

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FOR STARTERS

On stage. The comedy features five travelers and three locals stranded in an all-night diner during a Kansas snowstorm. The group includes a raw, rambunctious cowboy determined to marry a brassy, young Kansas City nightclub singer he has just met, whether she wants to or not! Steve Martin’s adaptation, “The Underpants,” takes over the mainstage April 7-30. A brilliant, hilarious adaptation of an old play, this over-the-top farce centers on an unruly pair of ladies’ bloomers as they drop to the ground at a very public moment. Humorous word play and masterful banter—satirical, comic mayhem at its best.

French Donjons. Castle of Coucy, Medieval Life in Miniature is on display through May 14 at the Joslyn. In the Middle Ages, centuries of conflict between France and England furthered the development of the art of building castles. The donjon or keep was the residential tower, a prominent part of castle architecture and a symbol of power. The residence of many powerful nobles of the Middle Ages, Coucy was famous for having the largest donjon ever built in Europe. Constructed in 1226-28, it stood nearly 700 years, it was destroyed during World War I. The model shows the siege in 1339, when England’s King Edward III led an unsuccessful attack against the castle and its owner, Enguerrand de Coucy. The story of the siege is illustrated with some 2,500 hand-painted figures representing both defenders and attackers.