

## ***Wari: Lords of the Ancient Andes* at the Cleveland Museum of Art**

**CLEVELAND (December, 2012)** – With support from the Ohio Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and other generous sponsors, the Cleveland Museum of Art presents ***Wari: Lords of the Ancient Andes***. This is the first North American exhibition to explore the art of the Wari. Their cosmopolitan society existed in the Andes Mountains of Peru between 600 and 1000 AD, and is widely regarded today as ancient Peru's first empire. The exhibition is complemented by an extensive program schedule, including lectures and gallery talks, film series, and a fashion competition. Organized and presented by the Cleveland Museum of Art, *Wari: Lords of the Ancient Andes* is on view now through January 6, 2013. Cleveland is the first venue to present *Wari: Lords of the Ancient Andes*; the exhibition then travels to Museum of Art/Fort Lauderdale and the Kimbell Art Museum in Fort Worth, Texas.

### **About *Wari: Lords of the Ancient Andes***

The groundbreaking exhibition examines this relatively unknown period in ancient South American history through 150 masterful artworks representing a variety of Wari media. Visitors to the *Wari: Lords of the Ancient Andes* will learn that the history of South American civilization long predates the more well-known Inca of the 15th and 16th centuries, and that artwork is crucial in understanding early human endeavors in this hemisphere. The exhibition contains superior examples of Wari artwork selected from more than 40 public and private collections from around the world. All major Wari media are represented in this comprehensive exhibition: ceramics; ornaments made of precious inlays or of gold and silver; small stone and wood sculptures; and intricately woven textiles that are among the finest ever made in the Andean region. The objects are of the highest aesthetic quality and cultural significance, and many have never or only rarely been seen outside of the countries where they now reside.

*Wari: Lords of the Ancient Andes* is accompanied by a nearly 300-page catalogue edited by Susan E. Bergh. The catalogue is comprised of scholarly essays by 14 of the world's leading Wari experts, and is the most comprehensive and richly illustrated publication available on Wari arts and is a major scholarly contribution to the field. The catalogue, available in hardback and paperback, is published by the Cleveland Museum of Art and Thames & Hudson, and contains over 160 color illustrations.

*Wari: Lords of the Ancient Andes* is organized by the Cleveland Museum of Art. The exhibition is sponsored by Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP. *Wari* has been made possible in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities: Exploring the human endeavor. This exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities. Support for exhibition programming has been provided in part by Georgia and Michael DeHavenon and by the Ohio Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Research for this exhibition was supported by a Curatorial Research Fellowship from the Getty Foundation.

### **Programming Highlights**

Programming for individuals, families and students of all ages will complement the exhibition throughout its Cleveland Museum of Art run.

### ***Hands-on Experiences and Workshops***

***Project Tunic, Friday, January 4, 7:00, Atrium. Free.*** Wari inspiration meets 21st-century fashion in *Project Tunic*. Join judges Valerie Mayen, former *Project Runway* contestant; Cleveland Fashion Week founder Donald C. Shingler; and fashion blogger Jessica Noelle as they choose the best Wari-inspired designs.

### ***Exhibition Tours***

**Special Exhibition Tours, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays at 2:30; Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. Free.**

Docent-led tours of *Wari: Lords of the Ancient Andes* begin Thursday, November 8. Meet in the atrium, and then proceed to the special exhibition. Visit [Clevelandart.org](http://Clevelandart.org) for docent name.

### ***Film***

Throughout December, classic films set in Peru and/or the Andes will be shown in conjunction with the Wari exhibition. For pricing and ticket information, call 216- 421-7350.

- ***Carnival in Q'eros* and *Dancing with the Incas, Wednesday, December 5, 6:45 p.m.*** Introduced by Dr. Kathryn Metz, education instructor at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame & Museum and an expert in Peruvian music. *Carnival in Q'eros*, shown first, captures the never-before-seen Carnival celebrations of Indians living high in the Peruvian Andes. *Dancing with the Incas* looks at Huayno music, the most popular music of the Andes.
- ***Aguirre, the Wrath of God, Wednesday, December 26, 1:30 p.m.*** A megalomaniacal Spanish conquistador searches for El Dorado, with music by Popol Vuh.
- ***Madelnusa, Thursday, December 27, 1:30 p.m.*** A 14-year-old Indian girl living in a Peruvian mountain village must fend off her father's lustful advances Good Friday until Easter morning—a time when villagers believe that sin does not exist. Adults only!
- ***Secret of the Incas, Friday, December 28, 1:30 p.m.*** With Charlton Heston and Robert Young. Often cited as a major inspiration for *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, this Peruvian-set drama follows a fedora-wearing American adventurer as he tries to locate a powerful ancient Incan artifact before a rival treasure-hunter does. Print courtesy of the Academy Film Archive of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.
- ***The Motorcycle Diaries, Saturday, December 29, 1:30 p.m.*** With Gael García Bernal. This acclaimed film re-creates the life-changing, four-month, 5,000-mile motorcycle trip across South America made by 23-year-old Argentine medical student Ernesto Guevara de la Serna (later Che Guevara) in 1952.

- ***Only Angels Have Wings, Sunday, December 30, 1:30. p.m.*** With Cary Grant, Jean Arthur, and Rita Hayworth. This stirring aviation adventure/romance focuses on a close-knit group of mail pilots who risk their lives crossing the treacherous Andes.

###

### **About the Ohio Humanities Council**

The Ohio Humanities Council encourages all Ohioans to explore the human story, to use history, literature, philosophy and the other humanities as the means to arrive at new insights. The OHC is an independent, nonprofit organization funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and private contributions. Since 1972, the OHC has provided services and grants to Ohio's cultural organizations. For more information about the Ohio Humanities Council, please call 800-293-9774 or visit [www.OhioHumanities.org](http://www.OhioHumanities.org).

### **About the Cleveland Museum of Art**

The Cleveland Museum of Art is renowned for the quality and breadth of its collection, which includes almost 45,000 objects and spans 6,000 years of achievement in the arts. CMA is supported by a broad range of Northeast Ohio individuals, foundations and businesses, and Cuyahoga County residents through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture. Additional support comes from the Ohio Arts Council, which helps fund the museum with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. For more information, call 888-CMA-0033 or visit [www.ClevelandArt.org](http://www.ClevelandArt.org).

### **For more information, please contact:**

Caroline Guscott, 216-707-2261, [cguscott@clevelandart.org](mailto:cguscott@clevelandart.org)

Fran Tiburzio, 800-293-9774, [frant@ohiohumanities.org](mailto:frant@ohiohumanities.org)