For Immediate Release

{DATE}

{CONTACT NAME, TITLE}
{ORGANIZATION}
{PHONE} {EMAIL}

**Photographers Document Prehistoric Rock Art in Exhibit at [LOCATION]**

[CITY] —― [ORGANIZATION] is sponsoring ***They Painted in the Canyons***, a Utah Arts & Museums’ Traveling Exhibition that features 24 photographs by Utah State University professor Craig Law, chronicling Utah’s prehistoric rock art. Located at [LOCATION] from [START DATE] to [END DATE], these photographs are a small selection of images included in a greater documentary project called the BCS Project run by Law and project director, David Sucec.

Before the first European Americans came to live in Utah during the 19th century; before the first Spanish priests journeyed through eastern Utah in the 18th century; before the arrival 400 years earlier of the Ute People; even before the Pueblo Cliff Dwellers, whose ancestors pushed into southern Utah about 2,000 years ago — before all these humans came to Utah, scattered bands of Archaic Native Americans painted striking human-like figures on canyon walls in Utah and the northern part of the Colorado Plateau.

These paintings in the Barrier Canyon style are Utah’s earliest known art on rock, and some images could date to a period between 8,000 and 6,000 years ago. They Painted in the Canyons shows photographs by Craig Law selected from the archives of the BCS PROJECT — a non-profit organization established to create a photographic inventory of Barrier Canyon-style pecked and painted images.

Craig Law, project photographer, is professor emeritus of photography at Utah State University, and he lives in Logan. Craig’s work is represented by Phillips Gallery in Salt Lake City. In 2008, Craig’s work was recognized by the American Rock Art Research Association with the Oliver Award for outstanding photography of rock art.

David Sucec, project director, is a visual artist, an independent scholar, and a curator who lives in Salt Lake City. In 1991, David was awarded a Utah Humanities Council Research Fellowship to initiate the BCS PROJECT. David is a member of the Utah Rock Art Research Association and the American Rock Art Research Association.

*They Painted in the Canyons* is going to be exhibited at [LOCATION], [STREET ADDRESS, CITY] from [START DATE] to [END DATE]. [LOCATION] is open [DAYS OPEN] from [OPENING TIME] to [CLOSING TIME]. Accompanying educational materials are available. For more information on viewing the exhibition, please call [PHONE NUMBER] or go to [WEB ADDRESS].

**About Utah Arts & Museums and the Traveling Exhibit Program**Utah Arts & Museums’ Traveling Exhibit Program is a statewide outreach program that provides schools, museums, libraries, and community galleries with the opportunity to bring curated exhibitions to their community. This program is supported in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information on participating in the program, please contact Fletcher Booth at fbooth@utah.gov or call 801.532.2617. For media inquiries, please contact Josh Loftin at jloftin@utah.gov or 801.245.7205.

Utah Arts & Museums is a division of the Utah Department of Heritage and Arts (DHA). To enrich the quality of life for the people of Utah, DHA creates, preserves, and promotes Heritage and Arts. The Division provides funding, education, and technical services to individuals and organizations statewide so that all Utahns, regardless of race, gender, ethnicity or economic status, can access, understand, and receive the benefits of arts and culture. Additional information on the programs and services can be found at [artsandmuseums.utah.gov](http://www.artsandmuseums.utah.gov)