

Andrew Smith will speak about his three year “Emerging Artists on Medicare” program.

He will address pragmatic points of philanthropy, preservation, and legacy on the part of artists, their heirs and collectors. He will address issues concerning placements of archives, collections and bodies of work; splitting them up, keeping them together, dealing with duplicate prints, the importance of self-editing; also capabilities of and limitations of institutions, the unique aspects and issues of each collection. He will discuss the chimeras of copyright values, traveling and retrospective exhibitions and fair market valuations versus the realities of bureaucratic economic realities, preservation issues, and curatorial and networking issues among institutions; the pragmatic dollar value of a collection weighed against the true cost of custodianship

He will use the New Mexico Museum of History, Photo-Archives of the Palace of the governors as a dynamic regional model. An institution collecting photography since the 1860s with about 1,000,000 prints and negatives they continue to add to their collection and mission as a State Photo-Archive incorporating the documentary and creative photographers of the 20th century photography movements. Recently in addition to taking in, cataloging, exhibiting, publishing and posting images on line they have begun a program of audio visual recordings of the image makers speaking about their work. This oral history is a key component in having artists create their own legacy.