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Red Hills with the Pedernal, Oil on canvas, 1936. Museum of New Mexico, Museum of Fine Arts, Santa Fe. © 2003 Museum of New Mexico, Museum of Fine Arts, Santa Fe. Photo: Blair Clark.

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Exhibits Information

Georgia O'Keeffe: Visions of the Sublime

Jan. 15 - Apr. 3, 2005

I have picked flowers where I found them—have picked up sea shells and rocks and pieces of wood. . . When I found the beautiful white bones on the desert I picked them up and took them home too. . . I have used these things to say what is to me the wideness and wonder of the world as I live in it.

—Georgia O'Keeffe

Flowers and skulls often come to mind when people think of Georgia O'Keeffe's art. But O'Keeffe's work is more than paintings of poppies and bleached cow bones. The Eiteljorg Museum proudly presents *Georgia O'Keeffe: Visions of the Sublime*, an extraordinary exhibit with an unconventional perspective – not to mention a whole body of work you've probably never seen before.

If you are familiar with Georgia O'Keeffe, you've probably seen her work interpreted within the framework of early 20th-century American modernism, feminism, and photography. *Georgia O'Keeffe: Visions of the Sublime* places her art in the context of the "sublime," lofty, grand, or exalted in thought, expression, or manner; tending to inspire awe.

For O'Keeffe, the sky and objects associated with the landscape—rocks, shells, bones, trees, and flowers—conjured the suggestion of the sublime, or infinite. To create works that were the emotional equivalents of her experiences in the western landscape, she moved freely between realism and abstraction.

The exhibition includes thirty-nine paintings by O'Keeffe that include landscapes of the Southwest, rivers, horizons, and other paintings that illustrate O'Keeffe's understanding of the sublime. Also on view will be twenty-five photographs by O'Keeffe's husband Alfred Stieglitz, which include portraits of O'Keeffe and his well-known "Equivalents" photographs, which were abstract images of the sky.

Paintings by other 19th century artists will be in the exhibition to illustrate the tradition of the sublime in American landscape painting.

This exhibition was profiled in the August 23rd issues of Newsweek. [Read the article here.](#)

Georgia O'Keeffe: Visions of the Sublime is organized and circulated by Joseph S. Czestochowski, International Arts, Memphis, Tennessee. The exhibition was made possible by the assistance of The Georgia O'Keeffe Foundation, Abiquiu, New Mexico; George Eastman House, Rochester (Alfred Stieglitz Collection); and the Museum of New Mexico, Museum of Fine Arts, Santa Fe, New Mexico (Georgia O'Keeffe Collection). All O'Keeffe images are provided courtesy of International Arts, Memphis, Tennessee.

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