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View painting by expressionist Egon Schiele at UM

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NEWS RELEASE

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VIEW PAINTING BY EXPRESSIONIST EGON SCHIELE AT UM

MISSOULA-

A watercolor by internationally recognized Austrian Expressionist Egon Schiele will be on display for public viewing at The University of Montana until Monday, Sept. 25.

The artwork, "Young Girl Seated, Half Nude (Valerie Neuzil, 1913)," loaned to the Montana Museum of Art and Culture by an anonymous private collector, will be in the lobby of the President's Office in University Hall. Lobby hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, except holidays July 4 and Sept. 4, when all UM offices will be closed.

Schiele, regarded by many of his contemporaries as the predestined successor to Art Nouveau artist Gustav Klimt, died of Spanish influenza in 1918 at the age of 28.

During his short career, he emerged as a premier Expressionist. His work, controversial during his time because of its erotic content, carries a timeless resonance through its existential explorations of the human condition.

Schiele was well-known for his psychologically charged portraits of women. He is said to have drawn his models without taking his eyes off them. This technique of continuous line drawing provided him with the style that became his hallmark. His use of choppy brushstrokes and splotches of sharp color made him unique among Expressionist painters.

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Many of Schiele's works were self-portraits that highlighted and exaggerated his physique as part of an ongoing, intense personal scrutiny and struggle with assuming adulthood.

Schiele was co-founder and president of the independent artists' association Neukunstgruppe.

This is the third generous art loan to the museum from a private collector. The loans offer rare opportunities to view original works by important modern artists who are represented in major museum collections around the world.

Schiele's works are in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art and the Neue Galerie in New York City; Kunstmuseum Basel in Switzerland; Staatsgalerie Stuttgart in Germany; and Österreichische Galerie Belvedere in Vienna, Austria.

For more information, call the Montana Museum of Art and Culture at 406-243-2019 or visit its Web site at http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum.

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