



MANITOBA OPERA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 6, 2016

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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Manitoba Opera presents an Exhibit of the Works of Documentary Photographer Dorothea Lange

Select works of one of America's most revered documentary photographers, Dorothea Lange, will be displayed at the Centennial Concert Hall from Sunday, April 10 until Sunday, May 15 as part of the initiatives around Manitoba Opera's production of *Of Mice and Men* being performed April 23, 26, and 29. This also includes an opportunity to view the exhibit on Sunday, April 24 from noon to 3 pm during Manitoba Opera's Open House event at the Concert Hall. As well, a number of the pieces will be on exhibit as part of the outdoor Viewfinder Gallery from June 3 to 30 on McDermot and Albert Streets in the Exchange District.

Dorothea Lange is best known for her Depression-era work for the Farm Security Administration. She documented everyday life in California during this difficult period of American history. Her photographs recorded the plight of Dust Bowl migrants with intimacy and deep personal empathy.

The works on display range from the familiar and heartbreaking *Migrant Mother, Nipomo, California*, 1936, to less familiar, but equally haunting images that were instrumental in galvanizing public support for programs to aid those affected by the Great Depression.

"We are so very pleased to have been able to bring some of Ms. Lange's work to Winnipeg in conjunction with our premiere of Steinbeck's literary classic *Of Mice and Men*. The story is set in the late 1930's and the two main characters, George and Lennie, are indicative of the thousands of ranch workers who travelled from farm to farm in search of work in California," commented Larry Desrochers, General Director and CEO. "This would not have been possible without the funding received from the U.S. Consulate in Winnipeg and we are very grateful to them for their support."

Manitoba Opera secured the rights to exhibit these works from the Oakland Museum of California which houses Lange's personal archives consisting of 25,000 negatives, 6,000 vintage prints, filed notes, and personal memorabilia. The exhibit has been curated by Leona Herzog, a member of Manitoba Opera's Board of Trustees and former curator of the Manitoba Hydro Art Collection. The images in the exhibit have been printed using a process from the 1930s that they appear much as they would at that time period.

Funding for this exhibit was provided by the U.S. Consulate – Winnipeg.