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**THE SHELDON ART GALLERIES TO SHOWCASE HARTENBERGER WORLD MUSIC COLLECTION
CELEBRATING THE MUSIC OF ST. LOUIS' IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES**

ST. LOUIS, MO - The Sheldon Art Galleries celebrates its 20th Anniversary milestone season with *St. Louis, A Musical Gateway: The Balkans, India and Mexico*, and several other complementary exhibits focusing on the immigrant experience from October 5, 2018 – April 13, 2019 in the Gallery of Music. **An opening reception is scheduled for Friday, October 5 from 5 – 7 p.m.** and the galleries will be open until 9 p.m. for First Fridays in Grand Center. The Sheldon Art Galleries are open Tuesdays, Noon – 8 p.m.; Wednesdays – Fridays, Noon – 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and one hour prior to Sheldon performances and during intermission. Admission is free. For more information on exhibitions, visit the galleries' website at TheSheldon.org. *The exhibition is supported in part by Dr. Aurelia and Jeffrey Hartenberger.*

Gallery Talk: Tuesday, December 4 at 6 p.m. Exhibit curator Dr. Aurelia Hartenberger speaks on the instruments in the exhibit. Admission free, but reservations are suggested. Contact Paula Lincoln at plincoln@thesheldon.org or 314-533-9900 x37.



The first in a series of exhibitions that celebrate the music of St. Louis's immigrant communities, this exhibit, drawn from The Sheldon's Hartenberger World Music collection, features over 150 unique and rare instruments from India, Mexico and the Balkan region, which includes Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Bulgaria, Turkey and Greece.

The exhibit brings attention to the rich diversity of St. Louis's musical history which enhances the cultural life in St. Louis. The show focuses on the folk music tradition in each of these regions, showcasing string, wind, percussion instruments and more.

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Sheldon Art Galleries/ *St. Louis, A Musical Gateway: The Balkans, India and Mexico*
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Highlights include a 3,000-year-old Olmec whistle and an ornate “Bajo Quinto” from Mexico, a 19th-century Croatian “Berda” Tamburitza, an ancient Greek terra cotta “siren” whistle and a 12th-century Hindu “Vamavarta” conch from India. The exhibition is curated by Dr. Aurelia Hartenberger.

The Sheldon’s Hartenberger World Music Collection was donated to The Sheldon by Dr. Aurelia and Jeff Hartenberger in 2014. The collection of over 2,600 world musical instruments with an estimated value of over \$2 million, features African, Asian, European, Oceanic, Middle Eastern and Central, South and North American instruments, from early pre-Columbian times to the present day.

From its founding in 1998 to this fall’s opening of six new exhibitions, the Sheldon Art Galleries have made their mark on the arts landscape for the past 20 years with some of the most unique, thought-provoking and diverse exhibitions in St. Louis. In this time, the Sheldon Art Galleries has organized or hosted 327 exhibits, and presented countless educational programs for young people and adults, which are offered free to the community.

The not-for-profit Sheldon Art Galleries exhibits works by local, national and international artists in all media. Over 6,000 square feet of the galleries’ spaces on the 2nd floor are permanently devoted to rotating exhibits of photography, architecture, music art and history and children’s art. A sculpture garden, seen from both the atrium lobby and the connecting glass bridge, features periodic rotations and installations, and the Nancy Spirtas Kranzberg Gallery on the lower level features art of all media. The Sheldon actively supports the work of St. Louis artists in all mediums and features a dedicated gallery with museum-quality exhibits by St. Louis artists, past and present.

Financial Assistance for this project has been provided by the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency. Support is provided by the Regional Arts Commission and the Arts and Education Council.

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Image caption: Rattle, Olmec, 1000 – 600 B.C.E., Region of ancient Chalchuapa, El Salvador, The Sheldon Art Galleries, Hartenberger World Music Collection. Gift of Dr. Aurelia & Jeffrey Hartenberger, Karrie Bopp, Jaclyn Hartenberger and Kevin Hartenberger.