Audubon exhibit at Nevada Museum of Art

By Mel Shields, Sacramento Bee

The images are as famous as they are fine and feathery: the flamingo with its neck stretching nearly to the ground, the bald ("white-headed") eagle in a pose that instantly calls the nation to mind, the white and brown pelicans, and the birds with their prey — both the great white heron and the osprey about to devour fish.

The fame, of course, belongs to the artist, John James Audubon, the focus of a major exhibition up through Feb. 13 at the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno. The exhibition consists of 50 of Audubon's dramatic, life-size watercolor depictions of "The Birds of America" from the first-edition printing of the New York Historical Society Edition.

The works now being premiered at the museum have joined its permanent collection, thanks to a bequest by Reno resident Dana Rose Richardson.

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