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Contemporary Art Exhibits Begin At Illinois Wesleyan on September 19

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. -- Two exhibits of contemporary art representing artists from China and the American Midwest will be on display at Illinois Wesleyan University galleries beginning Sept. 19.

The exhibits, which will continue through Oct. 24, open with a public reception in the gallery foyer of the School of Art building from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Sept. 19.

"Spiritual Sideshow", an exhibition of mixed media collages and assemblages by Chicago artist Ken Indemark, will be on display in the Wakeley Gallery.

The inspiration for Indemark's pieces comes from his blue collar, Midwestern childhood. His father performed in minstrel shows and Indemark spent many weekends as a teenager at East St. Louis roadhouses and racetracks. In retrospect, Indemark views those childhood events as a magic time and attempts to express that almost spiritual feeling in his artwork.

The Merwin Gallery exhibit will feature contemporary paintings by five Chinese artists, including Shan-Shan Sheng, who will be a visiting artist at IWU this fall.

In conjunction with the exhibit opening, Sheng will present a public lecture at 4 p.m. on Sept. 19 in the School of Art building.