ENTERTAINMENT POST-HERALD

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ART SCENE

Audubon prints land in Mountain Brook library

AUDUBON AND OTHER RARE NATURAL HISTORY PRINTS.

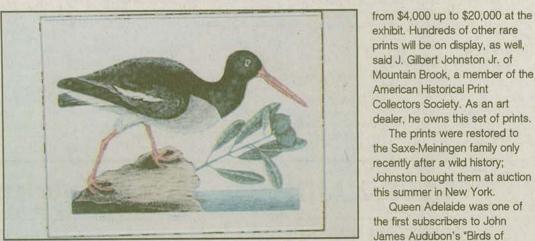
Emmet O'Neal Library, Crestline Village, Mountain Brook. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. today-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday. Free. For more information, call 531-3973 or visit www.antiquenatureprints.com.

A lifesize great heron. A lifesize flamingo. A lifesize wild turkey.

These birds are not alive, nor are they a product of taxidermy.

They have been printed from painstakingly etched copper plates and hand-watercolored, made from 1827 to 1838. Only about 119 full sets of the prints exist today, which include 435 pictures of birds.

Queen of England Adelaide Saxe-Meiningen (1792-1849)



Special to the Post-Herald

Rare Audubon prints, such as this one of an oyster catcher, will be for sale this weekend at Emmet O'Neal Library in Mountain Brook.

owned the almost-complete set on display this weekend at Emmet O'Neal Library in

Mountain Brook. She reigned from 1830 to 1837.

They're for sale individually.

The print publisher used such subscriptions to pay for the high cost of producing the prints. The queen paid more than \$1,000 for this set in 1827, Johnston said.

America."

The prints were restored to

Queen Adelaide was one of

Upon her death, the prints ended up in a German castle

belonging to her family. During World War II, supporters hid the prints in caves to survive the Nazi occupation.

The East German police eventually did seize them; only in the past few years have they been returned to the family, Johnston

A complete set of 435 prints sold for \$8.8 million in March 2000. Johnston said.

The queen's set of prints are rare in that they were never bound like the 119 complete existing volumes of the prints. They look like they did when they came off the print plates; the queen stored them unbound, Johnston explained.

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"They're unique in so many ways." Johnston said. - Leigh Anne Monitor / Birmingham Post-Herald

BMA reopens with new exhibits

By LEIGH ANNE MONITOR BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD

The Birmingham Museum of Art reopens its doors this weekend with hundreds of surprises.

Those surprises are many pieces of new art to see from many artistic eras in distinctive styles. The museum will feature four changing exhibitions opening Sunday, from antique Middle Eastern rugs to art made with recent trash from the side of the road.

The range of the new exhibits offers something for everyone, said Jim Sokol, a member of the museum's