NEWS RELEASE

Jan. 31, 2012

RCC FireHouse Gallery painting exhibit examines innocence and mythology

Mixed media paintings by Portland artist Christopher St. John will be displayed Feb. 1-24 at Rogue Community College FireHouse Gallery.

The exhibit, “Passages from Eden Corridor,” features an abstract expressionist vocabulary of marks and forms to examine the notion of innocence and challenges traditional origin myths. St. John likes to take simple ideas, such as animal forms or body parts, and let them evolve through many iterations.

St. John earned his bachelor’s in fine arts from University of Alaska, Fairbanks. He has received the Ruben Tam Award for Painting from the Honolulu Academy of Art. His paintings are in collections in Alaska and Hawaii and have been shown in group and solo exhibitions around the nation.

Also on display in the Community Exhibits Room will be paintings by Phyllis Trowbridge. A First Friday Art Night reception is scheduled from 6 to 9 p.m. Feb. 3. The gallery is located at the corner of H and Fourth streets in Historic City Hall, Grants Pass. Hours are 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. For information call 541-956-7241.

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RCC Wiseman Gallery features ink drawings by Jennifer Nelson

North Dakota artist Jennifer Nelson's ink drawings will be on exhibit Feb. 1-24 at Rogue Community College Wiseman Gallery.

Nelson's drawings are spare, often consisting of one or two objects rendered in ink wash with large amounts of white space. The location or setting is spare or absent creating focus in the action, event, and characters. These highly edited works provide the viewer with their own artifact from which to derive meaning while leaving time and place ambiguous.

She graduated with a master's in art from Minnesota State University, Mankato and her MFA from the University of North Dakota. Her work has been featured in solo and group exhibitions throughout the United States. Nelson currently lives in Grand Forks, North Dakota, where she maintains a studio and teaches at the University of North Dakota.

The Wiseman Gallery is located on the RCC Redwood Campus, 3345 Redwood Hwy., Grants Pass. Hours are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday. For information call 541-956-7241.

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