



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Meet the people behind the food you eat in a larger-than-life exhibition at the Fine Arts Center

COLORADO SPRINGS (Jan. 20, 2017) — The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center (FAC) is excited to present *The Migrant Series* by Colorado artist Don Coen Feb 18-May 21, 2017. *The Migrant Series* is a magnificent group of 15 large-scale realistic portraits painted between 1992 and 2012 of migrant farm workers.

Coen's goal with *The Migrant Series* is to raise the consciousness of America to this often overlooked yet vital segment of our society giving the migrant workers an identity and voice through his paintings. This new work portrays the dualities of the spirits and worlds we often drive by or do not care to notice or research. Exposing the essence of America's migratory labor and the human psyche, Coen's work inspires us to take notice, to respond and to care about these incredible people, their lives and contributions to our society.

Coen's life journey to become an influential contemporary artist began at a very early age while growing up on his family farm in Lamar, Colorado. When Coen was five, he began designing and building his own toys and drawing by kerosene lamp at night around the kitchen table. From those quiet nights until the present, Coen's work has been inspired by his experience working the land with his family and the several Latino families that lived and worked alongside Coen throughout his childhood and early adult years.

Coen's arduous life on the farm unveiled a deep love and connection to the surreal beauty of the eastern Colorado plains and to the people that worked the land. His ability to see this landscape in its entirety began and continues to result in powerful artworks that capture the landscape, people, and fauna that represent the American plains.

Throughout his career, Coen's work has been featured in numerous exhibitions and recognized by many publications, awards and museums. His work is widely collected throughout the world and part of permanent collections of many prominent museums. Visit the artist's website to learn more <http://www.doncoen.com/index.htm>

The Migrant Series: Don Coen

When: Feb. 18-May 21, 2017

Where: Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St.

Admission: \$15 adults; \$10 student and military (with ID); free for members and kids 12 and under

Fine Arts Center

In 1919 the Broadmoor Art Academy (BAA) was established in the former home of philanthropists Julie and Spencer Penrose. After the Great Depression hit in 1929, the BAA looked at diversifying further, expanding into an entire arts district under one roof. And that's how the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center (FAC) came to be. The FAC, built in 1936, is a privately funded, non-profit art museum, professional theatre company and arts education

center. Built on the foundation of the prestigious BAA, the FAC carries the legacy of Colorado's arts and cultural heritage. One of 16 charter members of the American Alliance of Museums, the FAC offers the best in visual arts via its permanent collection and travelling exhibitions, as a TCG member theatre company, and through arts education with the FAC's Bemis School of Art. The FAC building is considered an architectural treasure in the Rocky Mountain region, designed by John Gaw Meem, and is listed on the National Register of Historical Places. For information, visit csfineartscenter.org

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