



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Weather the Storm at the FAC's Exciting First Friday Art Party

**COLORADO SPRINGS (March 18, 2016)** — The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center (FAC) announces its First Friday exhibition for April and May will feature the photography of four Colorado-based Storm Chasers: David Mayhew, Eric Treece, Caryn Hill, and Roger Hill. This exhibition is presented as part of Pollinate: Biennial Arts Collaboration, exploring the theme of *energy* across southern Colorado. Holly Parker curated this special exhibition, *Storm Chasers*, for the FAC's Deco Lounge to showcase the energy of the skies. The works included in *Storm Chasers* is on view and available for sale April 1 through May 29, 2016 – with special First Friday Art Parties on April 1 (5-7p) and May 6 (5-7:30p).

### About the artists

#### DAVID MAYHEW (Fort Collins, CO)

David Mayhew chose photography as his life's work in 2003 and studied photography at the College of DuPage near Chicago where he also joined forces with the meteorology program. Mayhew has seen unique and beautiful sights including the largest ever recorded tornado – 2.6 miles wide in El Reno, Oklahoma in May 2013. Based in Fort Collins, Mayhew is ideally located for heading east to tornado alley or west to explore mountain landscapes.

#### ERIC TREECE (Elizabeth, CO)

Eric Treece is a professional storm chaser and videographer with over ten years of experience capturing extreme weather. Treece's photography and videos are regularly featured on numerous national news broadcasts including: The Weather Channel, CNN and Fox News, among others. Much of Treece's weather expertise comes from his experience as a Great Lakes Ship Master at the helm of the S.S. Wilfred Sykes, where weather is just as unpredictable on the water as it is on the plains. In 2010, he released a full-length video capturing a decade of chase seasons titled *Unleashed Fury*.

#### CARYN HILL (Bennett, CO)

Caryn Hill works to create photographs that provide a unique perspective on nature's unbridled fury from a vantage point most will never experience in person. Her photographs reflect not only this exciting point of view, but also the emotion sparked by an unusual camera angle, a thought-provoking composition, or simply a quiet, reflective moment in time. Hill chases storms with fellow photographer and husband, Roger Hill, also included in this exhibition.

#### ROGER HILL (Bennett, CO)

For nearly three decades, Roger Hill has spent close to 150 days a year in pursuit of thunderstorms to create videos and photographs of these momentous occasions. Hill has witnessed and photographed over 650 tornadoes, thousands of thunderstorms and tens of thousands of lightning strikes. In addition to chasing storms, Roger leads photography tours throughout the Southwest with his wife Caryn Hill.

***First Friday Art Walk at the FAC***

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**When:** April 1 from 5-7 & May 6 from 5-7:30p

**Where:** Deco Lounge at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St.

**Admission:** FREE and open to the Public

**Something else:** *Storm Chasers* is presented as part of Pollinate 2016. Pollinate is a biennial arts festival convening arts organizations in Southern Colorado to explore one compelling theme through exhibitions, events, and experiences. The 2016 theme is *energy*. Pollinate will energize the region and demonstrate the power of the arts in collaboration through a one-week festival of events April 1–9, 2016 across Colorado Springs; programs will take place from mid-March to mid-May. Visit [www.PollinateCOS.com](http://www.PollinateCOS.com) for details on specific exhibitions and events.

**Even more:** On April 1, the Colorado Springs Dance theatre will perform a sneak peak of *Shakti* – embracing the female principle of divine energy through music, dance and film in the Smith Glass Gallery at 5:30p and 6:15p.

**Even more:** On May 6, the FAC will announce the 2016-2017 season. Join us at 6p in the SaGaji theatre to hear all about the exciting programming scheduled for the upcoming year.

### **First Friday at the FAC**

Since May of 2015, the FAC has presented a number of exhibitions featuring local and regional artists in the FAC's Deco Lounge. Each exhibition is celebrated with a vibrant First Friday Art Party, which is free and open to the public and includes, artist talks and demonstrations, music, giveaways, a cash bar, and the stunning ambience offered by this chic, historic venue.

### **Fine Arts Center**

The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, established in 1936, is a privately funded, non-profit art museum, performing arts theatre and arts education center. Built on the foundation of the prestigious Broadmoor Art Academy, the FAC carries the legacy of Colorado's arts and cultural heritage. One of 16 charter members of the American Association of Museums, the FAC offers the best in the world of visual arts via its permanent collection and travelling exhibitions, performing arts through the FAC Theatre Company, and arts education with the Bemis School of Art. The FAC building is considered an architectural landmark in the Rocky Mountain region, designed by John Gaw Meem, and is listed on the National Register for Historical Places. For information, visit [csfineartscenter.org](http://csfineartscenter.org).

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