



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Find Harmony in the Abstract at the FAC's First Friday Art Parties

COLORADO SPRINGS (July 19, 2016) — The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center's First Friday Art Parties on Aug 5 and Sept 2 are a great place to chill out this summer and view stunning selections by local artist Betty Ross. Ross' extensive studio career shines in this exhibit as she unites her best talents in representative, narrative abstraction, acrylic, watercolor, and collage works – on view and available for purchase Aug 5-Oct 2, 2016.

Betty Ross (Colorado Springs, CO)

Betty Ross invites chance and seeks harmony in her studio practice. She endeavors to capture, in the words of Hilton Als, the “rush and chaos of nature” by using different modes and diverse artistic mediums. Some pieces evolve from photographs and on-site sketches, some aim to capture a narrative, while others are simply formal collage explorations.

Ross trained as an art historian and has a Master of Arts in Theatre from University of California, Berkeley. She designed and made costumes for UCCS's Theatreworks from 1976-2015. She travels extensively and incorporates ideas gained from these rich experiences into both paintings and costumes. Ross often works onsite in watercolor using the information for larger acrylic works in the studio sometimes adding collage elements – torn paper fragments, antique laces, leather, or shreds of wool.

“The gaps between abstraction and the real are actually what fascinate me as a painter— often filled with a narrative or strong emotion that drives the process whether at a pond in Derbyshire, or a cabin in the Sangres.” Betty Ross

First Friday Art Parties

When: Aug 5 and Sept 2, 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: Meet the artist, enjoy live music, giveaways, artist demos, and a cash bar

Even more: First Fridays are offered as part of the Downtown Partnership of Colorado Springs' First Friday program.

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 Association of Museums, the FAC offers the best in the world of 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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