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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lightning Speak and *A Very Long Line:* Two concurrent Fine Arts Center exhibitions blur the lines between sound art, visual art, performance, and activism while celebrating collaborative practice

Colorado Springs (*Sept. 28, 2017*) – The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College is excited to announce *Lightning Speak* and *A Very Long Line*, two distinct and related exhibitions showcasing the collaborative and solo work of Raven Chacon, on view Oct. 14, 2017 through Jan. 7, 2018.

Raven Chacon: Lightning Speak

A true multidisciplinary artist, Chacon is a composer of chamber music, a performer of experimental noise music, an educator, and an installation artist. The exhibition *Lightning Speak* showcases Chacon's diverse and wide-ranging practice by featuring both solo and collaborative multidisciplinary projects that blur the lines between music composition, sound art, visual art, and activism. Chacon has served as Composer-in-Residence with the Native American Composers Apprenticeship Project and in 2012 was awarded a Creative Capital Visual Arts grant. In 2014, he was honored with an Artist Fellowship in Music from the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation. He was recently named the Spring 2018 recipient of the Berlin Prize from the American Academy in Berlin, a prestigious semester-long fellowship and residency in Berlin that supports U.S. artists, scholars, and writers working on individual and collaborative projects between local German artists and institutions. Chacon is a member of the interdisciplinary collective Postcommodity, with whom he has developed multi-media installations which have been exhibited internationally. Chacon is also the inaugural Andrew W. Mellon Artist-in-Residence for the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College.

Postcommodity: A Very Long Line

Recently featured in the 2017 Whitney Biennial exhibition, *A Very Long Line* (a video installation by the three-person collective Postcommodity) unflinchingly examines border issues. In the words of the collective: "*A Very Long Line* demonstrates the dehumanizing and polarizing constructs of nationalism and globalization through which borders and trade policies have been fabricated." The interdisciplinary arts collective Postcommodity comprises Raven Chacon, Cristóbal Martínez, and Kade L. Twist. Their installations, performances, and site-specific interventions provide a shared Indigenous voice to challenge and disrupt the global market and its supporting institutions. Through diverse practices, Postcommodity works to achieve several goals: to forge new metaphors capable of rationalizing our shared experiences within this increasingly challenging contemporary environment; to promote a constructive discourse that challenges the social, political, and economic processes that are destabilizing communities and geographies; and to connect Indigenous narratives of cultural self-determination with the broader public sphere.

Raven Chacon: Lightning Speak & Postcommodity: A Very Long Line

When: Oct. 14, 2017-Jan 7, 2018

Where: Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College, 30 W. Dale St. **Tickets:** \$10 (\$5 military and seniors 55+); FREE kids 12 and under, students, and teachers

(with ID)

Something else: Visit <u>coloradocollege.edu/fac</u> for a list of related events and performances **More:** On Oct. 14, the FAC will hold a public open house celebration of the FAC/CC alliance. Enjoy live music, yoga, art demonstrations, hands-on art activities, light appetizers, cash bar, and more!

Even more: October is Arts Month! Each October, Colorado's Pikes Peak region celebrates Arts Month to elevate the visibility and value of arts and culture in our community. The goal is to engage the community and encourage every individual to have at least one new cultural experience with friends and family this October. Check-out a full listing of FAC Arts Month events at https://www.csfineartscenter.org/arts-month/

Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College

The story of the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College (FAC) begins with the founding of the Broadmoor Art Academy by Julie and Spencer Penrose in 1919. During the Great Depression, three dedicated philanthropists – Julie Penrose, Alice Bemis Taylor, and Elizabeth Sage Hare – envisioned expanding the Broadmoor Art Academy into an entire arts district under one roof. The FAC changed its name, built a grand building, and opened as the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center in 1936. In August 2016, the FAC announced an historic alliance with Colorado College and on July 1, 2017, became the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College. The FAC is deeply rooted in the legacy of its founders, who possessed bold visions, a deep passion for the arts, and dedication to the Colorado Springs community. The FAC honors this legacy and spirit today by providing innovative, educational, and multidisciplinary arts experiences designed to elevate the individual spirit and inspire community vitality, building on its history as a unique cultural pillar of the Pikes Peak region. For more information, visit coloradocollege.edu/fac

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