



COLORADO SPRINGS

Fine Arts Center

at COLORADO COLLEGE

FAC.COLORADOCOLLEGE.EDU

Contact:

fac.communications@coloradocollege.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fashion and art collide at the FAC in special international traveling exhibition World of WearableArt™

Colorado Springs (May 8, 2019) – The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College is excited to present the international traveling exhibition World of WearableArt™ (WOW) June 22-Sept. 22, 2019.

The 32 award-winning garments presented in this special exhibition represent some of the most original, provocative, and unorthodox objects in the World of WearableArt Historic Collection, demonstrating what designers from a wide variety of occupations can imagine when they are released from the constraints of “fashion” and are encouraged to see the human body as a blank canvas. This exhibition is organized by the World of WearableArt™ Ltd.

World of WearableArt™ combines an international wearable art competition with a spectacular stage show where dance, theatre, fashion, music, and art are combined. This year marks the 31st anniversary of the World of WearableArt Awards Show, New Zealand’s single largest theatrical event. Around 60,000 showgoers attend annually over the three-week show season from around the world. Each year, World of WearableArt creates new worlds to inspire designers, into which incredible wearable art garments are brought to life within the show. The rules of the competition encourage entries of anything that is wearable, as long as it is original, beautifully designed, and well-made, resulting in garments that are constructed from an array of traditional and unconventional materials. The challenge: take art off the wall and adorn onto the human form.

“WOW celebrates a huge variety of designers and ideas. It creates a competition that rewards people for being brave with their creativity, while also giving something spellbinding and magical to audiences.” Dame Suzie Moncrieff, World of WearableArt Founder

SPECIAL EVENT – *Sashay*

Launched in 2015, *Sashay* is back, featuring unique wearable art pieces. Enjoy an evening of exceptional design, cocktails, appetizers, music, and entertainment. This juried fashion show will feature 16 garments selected by jurors Virgil Ortiz, Gypsy Ames, and Karen Holloway – including *Vicarious*, a 2017 WOW finalist by Colorado Springs-born, New Zealand-based artist Etainia Dagda.

World of WearableArt™ Exhibition

When: June 22-Sept. 22, 2019

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

Admission: \$10; \$5 seniors/military; FREE for members/students and teachers with ID

Sashay

When: June 22, 2019, 7-11 p.m.

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

Admission: \$35; \$25 FAC members; \$20 students with ID

World of WearableArt™ and *Sashay* are presented in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the Broadmoor Art Academy (BAA), a national magnet for arts and culture in the early 1900s. At its inception, the BAA, which evolved into the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center in 1936, energized the region and created a modern movement to elevate artistic expression for residents and visitors to the Pikes Peak region. A century after its founding, the FAC celebrates the ingenuity of the artists and patrons who helped to shape the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College into the museum, performing arts theatre, and community art school it is today, and how the BAA's visionary roots are setting the stage for the next generation of arts and cultural enthusiasts. For more information on the 100th anniversary, exhibits, and events, visit fac.coloradocollege.edu.

World of WearableArt™, in partnership with the New Zealand Government, is presenting the international touring exhibition that showcases some of the very best of the permanent collection.

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. For 100 years, 30 West Dale Street has been the hub of rich cultural history throughout the region. The Broadmoor Art Academy served as a pillar in the cultural community of the Rocky Mountain West. 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 – ultimately evolving into what is known today as 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 fac.coloradocollege.edu.

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