

RMC OPENS "BROAD SPECTRUM: CONTEMPORARY QUILT EXHIBITION"

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ATTACHED: Image of detail from quilt, titled "Grass" by Christine Mullaney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BILLINGS -- The Ryniker-Morrison Gallery on the campus of Rocky Mountain College will host the first group exhibition of the Studio Art Quilt Association's members from Montana and Idaho, February 17 - March 30, 2012.

"Broad Spectrum: Contemporary Quilt Exhibition" will feature 20 contemporary quilts by 17 regional artists that have been selected for this exhibit by juror, Desiree Vaughn, of Suttons Bay, Michigan.

The Studio Art Quilt Association (SAQA) is an international non-profit organization dedicated to promoting art quilt through education, exhibitions, professional development and documentation. This show will next travel to the Denver National Quilt Festival VII, May 3-6, 2012.

The RMC quilt exhibit is the second of three quilt exhibits planned for the city of Billings between January and June of 2012. The MSU-B Library is holding its annual quilt show through February 29. The Yellowstone Art Museum opens "Creative Force: The Studio Art Quilt," March 22 - June 10.

Barb Olson, one of the featured artists in the Ryniker-Morrison Gallery, will present a lecture and slide show on "Quilting a Life." She will share her evolution from quilter to quilt artist and show many of her award-winning quilts. She will discuss the tools that helped her understand her life's purpose and how those tools expanded her creativity and developed her natural talents. The public is cordially invited to attend the lecture on Tuesday, March 6 at 7 p.m. in Room 14 of Tech Hall.

The show includes work from three well-recognized Billings quilt artists: Current artist-in-residence at the Yellowstone Art Museum's Visible Vault, Brooke Atherton; author and instructor, Barb Olson; artist and pattern designer Wanda Nelson.

Cynthia St. Charles, curator of the quilt exhibit, says "People have been using textiles as an expressive art form since the dawn of civilization. However, this art form phased out rapidly when mass productions made cloth cheap and plentiful. Now, in the age of technology, there is a deep, slow underground movement of artists around the world who have chosen textile as their medium for expression."

A reception opening the exhibit is planned for Friday, February 17, 2012 from 5-7 pm. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., M-F. The gallery will be closed during spring break, February 27-March 2. For more information call 259-6563 or email sally.mcintosh@rocky.edu

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