



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2012

THE HARWOOD MUSEUM OF ART OPENS THREE EXHIBITIONS CELEBRATING “MACHINE WILDERNESS (IN ZERO GRAVITY)” OCT. 27

Taos, N.M.— The Harwood Museum of Art opens three new exhibitions exploring the theme of “Machine Wilderness (In Zero Gravity)” to members Friday, Oct. 26, and to the public Saturday, Oct. 27. “Curiosity: From the Faraway Nearby,” “Falling without Fear” and “Charles Luna” offer a wide-ranging look at cutting-edge new work by contemporary artists and remain on view through Sunday, January 27, 2013.

“Machine Wilderness (In Zero Gravity)” is presented in collaboration with *ISEA2012 Albuquerque: Machine Wilderness* (www.isea2012.org), the 18th International Symposium on Electronic Art taking place in Albuquerque this fall. The Harwood’s shows are curated by Jina Brenneman, Curator of Collections and Exhibitions.

“These three exhibitions explore artists’ use of technology in the desolate place that is space,” says Brenneman. “Incorporating a variety of cultural expressions, the exhibitions focus on local, national and international artists inspired by the likely colonization of space. ‘Zero Gravity’ promotes an objective view of the possibilities of art in space in keeping with its investigative view of the journey. Just as Conceptual artists have questioned the need for the actual art object or physical process, so the conclave of interdisciplinary artists in “Machine Wilderness (in Zero Gravity)” challenges the constraints of zero gravity to probe the border between fact and fiction.”

“Falling Without Fear,” in the Caroline Lee and Bob Ellis Gallery, showcases the work of artists using digital media. Looped videos provide viewers with the opportunity to experience the creative and technical work being done through that relatively new medium. The exhibition features 3D graphics and animation by Jeff T. Alu and music by folk musician and composer Paul Elwood; Scott Moore’s land-based art that addresses social and environmental issues, especially wild and semi-wild places; Christina Sporrong’s merging of performance art and steel sculpture, with provocative and exciting results; and Steve Storz’s sculpture installation “Saw Screams,” which adds a post-apocalyptic element to the show.

“Curiosity: From the Faraway Nearby,” in the George E. Foster, Jr. Gallery of Prints, Drawings and Photographs, presents, according to Brenneman, “speculative landscapes focusing on the subjects of zero gravity, art in space, and aliens among us. The role of the artist in this exhibition is to present an objective, dispassionate view of this regional topic.” Brenneman adds, “Artists Eugene Newmann, John Connell, Connie Samaras, Joe Clower, Marc Baseman, Jeff Alu, and Charles Luna all have one thing in common: they share a conscious—or subconscious—yearning to explore the unknown expanse that we call space. For example, Marc Baseman’s recurrent vision of mushrooms and UFOs has its



Jeff Alu, *Cargo High*, Aerospace series, digital animation, courtesy the artist

source in the subconscious, while the-blink-of-an-eye clarity of Connie Samaras is focused with full consciousness on the space projects so prevalent in the new New Mexico landscape.”

“Charles Luna,” on display on the Curator's Wall, explores the Colorado artist's work, which ranges from portraits and abstractions to Surrealism, Lunascapes and Minddrawings.

Director Susan Longhenry is excited to be partnering with numerous organizations celebrating *ISEA2012 Albuquerque: Machine Wilderness*.

"The Harwood Museum of Art is thrilled to join this collaboration of more than 50 partnering organizations representing museums, colleges, nonprofit arts organizations, environmental organizations and the scientific and technological communities," says Longhenry.

“Falling Without Fear” is made possible in part by support from Edwin Roos and Maryann Evans.

Hours

Through October 31: Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m; Sunday, 12–5 p.m. Closed Monday after November 1

General Admission

\$10 adults, \$8 seniors (65+) and students; Free to children age 12 and under, members of the Harwood Museum Alliance, University of New Mexico students and staff, and Taos County residents on Sundays. \$25 Museum Association of Taos ticket is available for admission to the Harwood Museum of Art, the Taos Art Museum, the Millicent Rogers Museum, the Blumenschein Home and Museum, and La Hacienda de los Martinez.

Where: The Harwood Museum of Art of UNM, 238 Ledoux Street, Taos, NM

Info: 575-758-9826, www.harwoodmuseum.org

The Harwood Museum of Art, located in Taos, New Mexico, founded in 1923, is the second oldest museum in New Mexico. In 2010, the Harwood Museum inaugurated its expansion which includes an auditorium, library, additional exhibition space, and a state-of-the-art collection.



IMAGES AND INTERVIEWS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

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