



Fine Arts Center
COLORADO SPRINGS

30 West Dale Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80903



121 South Tejon Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

tel: 719.634.5581 fax: 719.634.0570
www.csfineartscenter.org

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Charlie Snyder, Director of Public Relations
719.477.4316; csnyder@csfineartscenter.org

Altered Space **FAC MODERN will be transformed with 21st Century installation art**

COLORADO SPRINGS (Jan. 8, 2008) – The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center’s curators Tariana Navas-Nieves and Blake Milteer have selected three Colorado artists for the exhibition, *Altered Space: 21st Century Installation Art*, which opens Friday, Feb. 1, with a reception from 5-8 p.m. at the FAC MODERN, located in the Plaza of the Rockies.

Christina Marsh and **Matt Barton** of Colorado Springs and **Gwen Laine** of Denver will each transform a gallery space at the MODERN, creating original works of installation art that incorporate a diversity of media, including projections, video, sound, photography, sculpture and even food, which was popularized as an art form in the 1970s and 1980s. The show will be on display through April 27.

“We are delighted to invite these three local and regional artists to take over the FAC MODERN for this exhibition,” said **Blake Milteer**, FAC Curator of American Art. “These gifted artists will take our patrons into three distinctive environments, creating sensory experiences unlike anything we’ve ever displayed at the Fine Arts Center.”

Christina Marsh | [Artist Website](#)

Christina Marsh, from Lindenhurst, Ill., is currently in her second year as the Riley Scholar in Residency at Colorado College. She earned her Masters in Fine Arts at the University of Illinois, Champaign/Urbana. Her works have been exhibited in many venues including the Schmucker Gallery at Gettysburg (Pa.) College and Eastern Illinois University’s Tarble Art Center. She also participated in the Mobilivre traveling exhibition that was shown in 14 states. Her work has incorporated food, photography and prints.

“I use my art as a medium to illustrate my struggle with physical and emotional bonds,” Marsh says. “Between the polarities of black and white, positive and negative exists a neutral area. My works are about deciphering that gray.”

In 2004, Marsh created "One Drop," an installation piece featuring 100 glasses filled with eight ounces of milk and varying amounts of chocolate. "I wanted to illustrate America's perception of how ethnicity is defined through our consciousness of color."

Matt Barton | [Artist Website](#)

Matt Barton currently teaches 3D art making for the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs' Visual and Performing Arts department. Following brief stints as a Chuck E. Cheese dancing rat and Victoria Secret shop stock boy, Barton spent a year in Italy as an artist apprentice. He earned his Masters in Fine Arts in 2006 from the Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh.

In 2006, Barton put his varied experience and skill to work on an installation piece called, "Time-O-Rama: Electric Infinity with Real Plastic," which incorporated 20 mechanized taxidermy animals, two video projections, five sound CDs, blooming flowers, falling leaves and changing colors, plus thunder and lightning; and wine was dispensed from a nozzle sticking out of deer's ribs.

"I was trying to create a mystical reality, the experience of the collapse of time and space into a single point of reality, while being self-aware of the paradox of creating such a reality using time-based media in space."

Gwen Laine | [Artist Website](#)

Gwen Laine has lived in Denver since 1975. She earned her BFA from the University of Colorado, where she studied photography, sculpture and art history. Her work has been exhibited throughout the U.S. and has been published internationally.

For *Altered Space*, Laine is creating an installation piece called, "Passing Through," in which she will employ photographs, clear Mylar, and silver Mylar balloons filled with helium to represent what role chance – circumstances beyond our control – plays in determining our next moment in life.

"For this installation, I relied upon degrees of control and chance to create a work that changes over time," said Laine. "I included images of hands in this work because hands are often the tools through which our minds control our lives, but some degree of what occurs in our lives is due to chance."

Tariana Navas-Nieves, FAC Curator of Hispanic and Native American Art, says that the *Altered Space* exhibition will take the FAC MODERN closer to its mission as a venue.

"We want to use the FAC MODERN as a venue for edgy, contemporary modern works of art as well as shine a spotlight on our diverse local and regional artists and collectors. This exhibition fulfills that vision in a thoughtful, innovative, and entertaining way."

Altered Space: 21st Century Installation Art is sponsored by The Colorado Springs Independent and Timothy C. Hoiles.

The FAC MODERN is sponsored by El Pomar Foundation, Nor'wood Development Group, and Gay & Lesbian Fund for Colorado.