



Fine Arts Center

COLORADO SPRINGS

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TERRY MAKER: RECKONING *Mixed media installations tackling longing, desire and creation*

COLORADO SPRINGS (Jan. 19, 2012) – It's not every exhibition at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center that features an 100-foot snake made of shredded money, but that's exactly what will be slithering its way through the middle of the FAC's signature El Pomar Gallery with the **Terry Maker: Reckoning**, beginning Feb. 18 through June 3.

"Maker is a Boulder artist who's been exhibiting her extremely original pieces for the past 25 years," writes Denver entertainment weekly, *Westword*.

Terry Maker's art beautifully and forcefully expresses her fascination with the meaning of desired objects and the extension of their significance into physical and spiritual realms. Maker's themes of creativity, spirituality, consumption, longing, transition, creation, and decay are woven together through art in which the artist has employed objects such as candy, money, photographs, and celluloid film.

"Terry poetically interweaves found objects with images suggestive of shared experience, Christian symbolism, and literary standards," said FAC Museum Director Blake Milteer. "In these works, candy becomes beautiful abstract shapes, shredded money becomes a giant serpent, film becomes the intertwined branches of a tree. Terry has created stunningly gorgeous delights for the eye that draw us into themes of life's greatest mysteries."

The exhibition features 50 works from the past 10 years of Maker's career and includes mixed-media installations. **Terry Maker: Reckoning** opens to the public on Saturday, Feb. 18, during regular business hours (10a – 5p; \$10 for non-member adults).

An exclusive **Members-Only Preview** on Friday, Feb. 17, will feature a presentation by the artist; beginning at 5 p.m. Admission is free.

Maker's work references English literature from William Golding's *Lord of the Flies*, T.S. Eliot's *Wasteland*, Milton's *Paradise Lost* and John Steinbeck's *East of Eden*.

Large-scale works such as *The Garden of Nineveh* and *Reptilius Consumerus Devourus* will immerse the viewer in Maker's vision of Edenic bliss layered with human frailty. *Ozymandian Tree – A Silent Film*, Maker's newest work, takes viewers on a poetic journey through its branches while suggesting the inevitable demise of earthly strength and power.

Other works address our compulsive desire, persistent memory, and transitory lives through works that appear purely abstract, yet express elemental and universal human experience.

"Terry Maker is driven by the journey of creating art as much as by its end," said Milteer. "Her art reveals elemental truths, but it is nurtured through pure inquiry and artistic process. What viewers will find is images that sing of joyous mystery."

A small full-color catalogue will accompany the exhibition.

Terry Maker: Reckoning is sponsored by El Pomar Foundation, KKTV, Colorado Springs Independent and The Anschutz Foundation.

About Terry Maker

Innovative Colorado artist Terry Maker continues to explore process while addressing themes relating to human desire. Evident in the artist's own commitment to explore hard-won territory with her chosen materials, is Maker's desire to challenge herself and the viewer to investigate her complex surfaces and meanings. By utilizing resin, a material new to her process, and commonplace domestic objects, Maker composes and assembles elements including plates, straws, vinyl record shards, jawbreakers and more into large, resin-poured solid blocks. The artist then slices through the amply cured forms using an industrial band saw revealing her chosen cross-sections. The different and surprising views of the embedded objects sometimes identifiable, often not, present the viewer with a visual puzzle and further exploration of the artist's unusual visual vocabulary symbolizing desire. With Maker's process of cutting into the resulting block of amalgamated materials, she revitalizes the objects and reassigns new meaning. Revealed in the artist's quest to investigate a new way of mark-making, "Slice" alludes to the cyclical human state of "wanting" desire exposing layers immediate and inaccessible and offering insights both visual and metaphoric.

Fine Arts Center

Established in 1936, the Fine Arts Center is home to world-class art galleries, Broadway-worthy live theatre, and an art school for all ages. Built on the foundation of the prestigious Broadmoor Art Academy, the FAC carries the legacy of Colorado's arts and cultural heritage. One of the first 16 institutions accredited by the American Association of Museums in 1971, the FAC offers the best in the world of visual arts via its permanent collection and travelling exhibitions, performing arts through the FAC Theatre Company, and arts education with the Bemis School of Art. The Fine Arts Center's building is considered an architectural landmark in the Rocky Mountain region, designed by John Gaw Meem, and is listed on the National Register for Historical Places. In 2007, the FAC unveiled a \$28.6 million renovation and expansion. Visit csfineartscenter.org for more information.

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