



Fine Arts Center  
COLORADO SPRINGS

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## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# The Eclectic Eye: Pop and Illusion

## Stunning new FAC traveling exhibition gallery opens with Weisman

**COLORADO SPRINGS** (July 17, 2007) – The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center is extremely excited to host *The Eclectic Eye: Pop and Illusion – Selections from the Frederick R. Weisman Art Foundation* as the inaugural exhibition in the new traveling exhibition galleries.

The exhibition opens Aug. 4 to the public and continues through Oct. 28 at the FAC Main.

The 150 works in the exhibition draw from Weisman's great passion for pop art and illusionistic art from the 1960s, '70s, '80s, and '90s, from such artists as Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, Robert Motherwell, David Hockney, Duane Hanson, and Keith Haring, among others.

"This exhibition boasts astounding works by iconic artists, side by side with great works by younger artists," said Blake Milteer, FAC Curator for 19<sup>th</sup>- 21<sup>st</sup> Century American Art.

"We've never installed anything like this here before," Milteer said. "I think this exhibition is going to have a lot of firsts for us and our visitors.

"Following our great Warhol and Peter Max exhibitions at the FAC, our audience is very familiar with Pop Art and this show will expand the language of what Pop Art was and is; 'illusion' will take us in some new and exciting directions."

### **The Eclectic Eye: Pop and Illusion – Selections from the Frederick R. Weisman Art Foundation** August 4 – October 28, 2007

Frederick R. Weisman began collecting art with an eye for excellence in the 1950s and became one of the world's top collectors of modern and contemporary American and European Art. This collection of over 1,000 works is unique for the range and breadth of its holdings.

### **Impressionist and Modern Masters from the New Orleans Museum of Art** December 8, 2007 – March 9, 2008

This collection showcases major artists associated with the Impressionist movements, including Edgar Degas, Claude Monet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Pablo Picasso and many more.

### **Life as a Legend: Marilyn Monroe** May 3 – July 5, 2008

This vivid and diverse exhibition captures Marilyn's rise to stardom through works by more than 65 artists in styles ranging from fashion photography to Pop Art – documenting the iconic life of America's favorite sex symbol.

### **The Baroque World of FERNANDO BOTERO** May 23 – August 15, 2009

The works of Colombian painter, sculptor, and draftsman Fernando Botero, with their exaggeratedly rounded forms, depict the comedy of human life – moving or wry, baroque in expression, sometimes with a mocking observation, sometimes with a deep, elementary emotion.

Four of Milteer's top picks from the exhibition include:

**Duane Hanson** was one of the 20th century's preeminent sculptors, best known for life-sized realistic works of people. The works are so realistic that they have been known to fool gallery visitors. Both Hanson and Weisman are from Minnesota. The sculpture, "*Executive on Telephone*," is a portrait of Frederick's father, William Weisman.

**Nam June Paik**, a South Korean-born American artist, is credited as the first video artist, elevating the use of monitors, music and performance in art. His work, like *Michelin Man Laser Robot*, can be found in museums around the world and in American museums such as the Smithsonian, the Hirshhorn and Walker Art Center.

In 2007, **Andy Warhol**, the central figure in the Pop Art movement, became the second-highest-grossing artist in history after Pablo Picasso. Warhol created many paintings that remain icons of 20th century art, including the *Marilyn Monroe* screen prints. He is generally acknowledged as one of the most influential artists of the 20th century.

**Tom Wesselman** specialized in found art collages, producing large-scale paintings mixed with other elements. A contemporary of Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein, Wesselmann combined images of the modern, temporary society with enduring artworks from the past, such as the famous portrait of George Washington by Gilbert Stuart next to a table of fruit and a real television monitor in *Still Life #31*.

In the late 1950s, our society's increasing inundation with mass media and advertising provided vibrant subjects and techniques for artists who wished to address popular culture's vitality and its influence on our everyday lives. Pop art has since taken many forms such as Andy Warhol's images immortalizing popular consumer brands like Campbell's Soup and celebrities like Marilyn Monroe, Roy Lichtenstein's reinterpretations of comic strip subjects and styles, and Ed Ruscha's paintings inspired by advertising graphics.

Illusionistic art depicts people, objects, and scenes similarly to the ways our eyes see. We often think of illusionism in contrast to abstraction. Artists have developed illusion throughout history, and its perfection is considered to be one of the greatest achievements of Renaissance painters. In the 20th century, illusionistic painting continued through artists like James Rosenquist and was extended in new and exciting ways to sculpture and photography through artists such as Claes Oldenburg, Duane Hanson, and David Hockney.

*The Eclectic Eye: Pop and Illusion* spotlights a selection of these artists, images, and ideas that have transformed our cultures in the last half-century and also offers a glimpse into the personal vision of one of America's most important collectors of 20th century art. *The Eclectic Eye* is the single-most important exhibition to travel to Colorado Springs. The show also has the distinction of being the inaugural exhibition in the museum's astounding new traveling exhibition space.

*The Eclectic Eye: Pop and Illusion – Selections from the Frederick R. Weisman Art Foundation* is sponsored by the El Pomar Foundation, Weisman Art Foundation, The Gazette, Ron and Una Brasch, and the Gay & Lesbian Fund for Colorado.

The FAC *Extremely Grand Opening* sponsored by the El Pomar Foundation, PRACO, La Plata Investments, American National Bank, GE Johnson Construction Company, Comcast, Waldrons Photography, KLite 106.3, The Gazette, Timothy C. Hoiles and the Estate of Harriet Brundin.

## ABOUT THE FINE ARTS CENTER

Founded in 1936, the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center is a privately funded, non-profit art museum, performing arts theatre, and arts education center. The two-story, 48,000 square-foot expansion to be unveiled Aug. 2-5 during the *Extremely Grand Opening* was conceived and designed by award-winning architect and Colorado Springs native David Owen Tryba to complement the original 1936 John Gaw Meem building, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Visit [www.csfineartscenter.org](http://www.csfineartscenter.org).

### FAC MAIN

30 West Dale Street

### FAC MODERN

Plaza of the Rockies, 1st Floor, South Tower  
121 South Tejon Street

[www.csfineartscenter.org](http://www.csfineartscenter.org)

719.634.5583 box office

### NEW HOURS as of Aug. 6, 2007

#### FAC MAIN, FAC MODERN, MUSEUM SHOPS

Monday	Closed
Tuesday, Wednesday	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Thursday, Friday, Saturday	10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Sunday	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

#### CAFE 36

Monday	Closed
Tuesday – Sunday	11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

#### DECO LOUNGE

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday	Closed
Thursday, Friday, Saturday	11 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Sunday	11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

### NEW ADMISSION PRICING (as of Aug. 4):

#### FAC MAIN First Level Access

*Includes permanent collection, FAC MODERN*

FAC members	Free
Non-Members – adults	\$7.50
Non-Members – seniors	\$6.75
Non-Members – students with ID	\$6.75
Non-Members – youth 5-17	\$6.75
Non-Members – kids 4 and under	Free

#### FAC MAIN First, Second Level Access

*Includes traveling exhibition, permanent collection, FAC MODERN*

FAC members – adults	\$7.50
FAC members – seniors	\$6.75
FAC members – students with ID	\$6.75
FAC members – youth 5-17	\$6.75
Non-Members – adults	\$12.00
Non-Members – seniors	\$10.50
Non-Members – students with ID	\$10.50
Non-Members – youth 5-17	\$10.50
Non-Members – kids 4 and under	Free

#### FAC MAIN Free Admission for All

*Includes El Pomar Corridor, Glass Corridor, sculpture gardens, courtyard, Museum Shop, Tactile Gallery*

#### FAC MAIN Free Admission with Student ID

*Colorado College  
Univ. of Colorado-Colorado Springs  
Pikes Peak Community College*