



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 30, 2017

Contact: Laura Roddy, Development and Marketing Director
316-634-2787

Printmaking National and John Boyd Exhibitions to Open July 7

WICHITA, Kan. — Mark Arts will open its Printmaking National Exhibition on Friday, July 7. The exhibition, which is underwritten by the Fred and Mary Koch Foundation, will remain on display through August 13.

The public is invited to an opening reception from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on July 7, during which instructor Doug Billings will offer a hands-on printmaking demonstration sponsored by the Gordon W. Evans Charitable Trust. Juror Sarah Riley of Wellfleet, Massachusetts, will give a talk on printmaking at 7 p.m. at Mark Arts, 9112 E. Central Ave.

Printmaking is a Mark Arts course area with a long and storied history stemming from the involvement of C.A. Seward in the launch of the famed Prairie Print Makers. Seward was president of Mark Arts, then known as the Wichita Art Association in 1932-33, not long after he and 10 other Kansas artists formed the Prairie Print Makers in Birger Sandzen's Lindsborg studio. Within a few years, the group had nearly 150 active and associate members.

Today at Mark Arts, the tradition continues with the Tallgrass Prairie Press. Community members are encouraged to learn more about this art form. Printmaking is not a photographic reproduction of a painting. Printmakers transfer ink through prepared screens, which can be made from metal, wood, linoleum, silk and more.

Riley, the juror, selected 84 works for exhibition and conferred the following awards:

FIRST PLACE MARY R. KOCH MEMORIAL AWARD – \$1,000: *Expectations* by Emily Shopp of Chicago

SECOND PLACE – \$750: *Running on Empty* by David Avery of San Francisco

THIRD PLACE – \$500: *Postnatal Hair Ghost* by Hannah Sanders of Cape Girardeau, Missouri

HONORABLE MENTION – \$250: *RedDan I* by Chloe McEldowney of Peoria, Illinois; *Untitled II* by Cynthia Milionis of San Francisco; and *Selfie Portrait: Hashtag Meme* by Mark Sisson of Stillwater, Oklahoma

John Boyd Exhibition

Mark Arts also will open its concurrent John Boyd Exhibition on July 7. John Boyd (1939-2012) was a specialist in lithography with a funky style who brought national recognition to Wichita State University's printmaking program. "A cartoon style fits my art approach because of its directness, simplicity and clarity," Boyd once said.

Artisan Academy Workshops to be held in conjunction with the Printmaking National Exhibition:

Handmade Relief and Intaglio Printmaking

Instructor: Doug Billings

7 - 9 p.m., August 2 | Cost: \$40 or \$60 for both Billings seminars

Learn the history of handmade relief and intaglio printmaking. Demonstrations included.

Lithography and Monotype Printmaking

Instructor: Doug Billings

7 - 9 p.m., August 3 | Cost: \$40 or \$60 for both Billings seminars

Learn the difference between original, handmade prints and reproduction prints — and why it matters. Demonstrations included.

###

About Mark Arts

The mission of Mark Arts is to be a vibrant arts hub in Wichita and the region by providing opportunities to appreciate and create art in an atmosphere of lifelong learning. It was originally founded in 1920 as the Wichita Art Association, later became The Wichita Center for the Arts and is the area's oldest visual arts organization. The galleries are open 1 to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Admission is free. Visit MarkArtsKS.com or call 316.634.2787.

MARY R KOCH ARTS CENTER