



MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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In the Millstone Gallery at COCA

Figures, Fables & Fiction

Curated by Nancy Newman Rice

Opening Reception
Friday, September 14, at 5:30pm

WHAT: COCA presents ***Figures, Fables & Fiction***, an exhibition exploring the human figure as the subject of painting curated by Nancy Newman Rice. The exhibition features works by artists from the St. Louis region including: Andrew Brandmeyer, Nicole Cooper, Dominic Finocchio, John Joseph Hunn, Jed Jackson, Metra Mitchell, David Ottinger, Lonnie Powell, Victor Wang.

Curator's Statement: "It is almost impossible to divorce meaning from art works in which the human figure appears. Their presence implies or suggests narratives. Many works involve a personal iconography, dream states, unusual interactions, facets of personalities, and the ultimate state of our mortality. The paintings in this exhibition invite the viewer's associations and further interpretation. What unites these artists, besides the figure as subject, is their skill in presenting a cohesive story about the experience of being human."

WHERE: Millstone Gallery at COCA, 524 Trinity Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63130

WHEN: Friday, September 14 – Sunday, November 4, 2018
Opening Reception: Friday, September 14, at 5:30pm; Artists' remarks at 6:15pm

COST: The exhibition is free and open to the public through Sunday, November 4, 2018.

SPONSORS: Presented by the Arthur and Helen Baer Charitable Foundation, with additional support provided by The Millstone Foundation, Missouri Arts Council, Arts & Education Council and Regional Arts Commission.

IMAGES: High-resolution images available at: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/18g1g8ly2tc5jkn/AABcfftNsKVGJ-KDhXbMUIMa?dl=0>

ABOUT THE CURATOR:

Nancy Newman Rice was born in New York City and was educated at Cornell University and Washington University, where she earned a BFA with honors and an MFA. She has been awarded a National Endowment for the Arts/MMA Fellowship for painting, Artist's Residency Award at the Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris, France and nominations for a Tiffany Award and an AVA Award in the Visual Arts. Rice has exhibited her work internationally and has had a number of solo exhibits in both galleries and museums.

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COCA-Center of Creative Arts is the 4th largest non-profit community arts center in the country and one of only 16 accredited by ACPAS. With a mission to enrich lives and build community through the arts, COCA connects our community to the arts through programs that emphasize social and artistic diversity, economic and cultural accessibility, hands-on experience of the artistic process, and the highest quality in our faculty. Founded in 1986, COCA is a national leader in innovative community arts education. COCA annually serves more than 50,000 area residents of all ages through multidisciplinary, multi-cultural arts programs that include educational classes, camps and workshops, both on-site and in community venues; COCABiz; COCAedu; COCA Presents; and exhibitions of contemporary art in the Millstone Gallery.