

For immediate release

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LineWorks: Drawing Redefined

November 13, 2014 – January 3, 2015

Reston, VA: Greater Reston Arts Center is pleased to present *LineWorks: Drawing Redefined*, a group exhibition featuring five artists who utilize line as an essential element in their work. Line-based glyphs and pictograms were among the earliest forms of communication. Wedges pressed into clay slabs, drawings on the walls of caves, and script writing all link our earliest ancestors to the creative process of conveying thoughts and information through linear images. Line-based drawing remains a critical component in the work of contemporary artists, who are expanding the definition of drawing itself, through the adoption of innovative processes.

Featured artists Lee Gainer, Sarah Irvin, Nikki Painter, Foon Sham, and Sarah Weinstock all create work that relies fundamentally upon line drawing. In addition, they all explore how memories are formed, collected, and forgotten, using drawing to document their experiences. Lee Gainer, a full-time practicing artist living and working in the DC metro region, takes snapshots of gatherings, celebrations, and other notable moments and translates them into detailed line drawings. Using a computer and a steady hand, Gainer overlays these drawings to create semi-abstract works that examine how memories are constructed and recalled. Lee's works are visual puzzles of intersecting lines that simultaneously present the individually-meaningful moment and the universally-shared familiar experience.

Sarah Irvin is currently a Master of Fine Arts candidate at George Mason University. Her large-scale and physically impressive work from the *Ink Series* is autobiographical, and reflects on the life of her paternal grandfather, who suffered from Alzheimer's disease. These works focus on hidden text as a representation of memory, the abilities and limitations of the mind, and the simultaneous power and shortcomings of language.

Nikki Painter lives and works in Richmond, VA, and is represented by Civilian Art Projects in Washington, DC. GRACE will present several of her dimensional drawings, which are miniature environments of textured and hyper-colored paper set deep inside elegant white boxes. The

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artist will also create an approximately 10' x 10' x 10' site-specific installation, which reflects spaces we may feel familiar with, despite creative alteration. Painter's exciting, albeit somewhat unsettling, works are precarious visual playgrounds of lines and colors, which distort our perceptions of depth and space.

GRACE will also show a group of drawings by internationally-renowned sculptor Foon Sham, who lives in Fairfax County and teaches sculpture at the University of Maryland; Sham completed a summer residency in Scotland in 2009. While he was there, devoid of his usual tools and materials, he collected local wood samples and phone books as inspiration for a new series of drawings. In these drawings, the wood serves as a three-dimensional component while the grain structure determines the direction of the compositional lines. In addition to the drawings, Sham will also present a large, linear 10' sculpture comprised of carved discs, fashioned from the cross sections of diverse trees. The discs are held in a graceful balance that could represent uplifted arms, the horns of an enormous ox, or a ship on the horizon.

Sarah Weinstock is a full-time artist who lives in Columbus, Ohio. Her main body of work concerns our reaction to movement and the impulses caused by music. Her interactive "dance party" installations are filmed and exist as works in their own right; what remains become Weinstock's "drawings." GRACE will show two videos featuring of smoke and fire embers manipulated off- screen by the artist's movements. As the artist describes it, "My drawings are the visual residue left behind from my thoughts or limbs dancing to music."

LineWorks: Drawing Redefined will run from November 13, 2014 through January 3, 2015 at the gallery, located in Reston Town Center. Gallery hours are 11am – 5pm Tuesday through Saturday and GRACE is always free and open to the public.

All are invited to attend the opening reception on Saturday November 15, from 6-8pm with an artist talk at 5:30pm.

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Image credits:

Lee Gainer, 2013, *Crystal Cove*, acrylic on cradled panel, 47" x 47"

Sarah Irvin, 2013, *Myth*, ink on yupo, 60" x 84"

Nikki Painter, 2013, *Home*, Mixed media, model wood, collage on foam core
10.25" x 10.5" x 10.5"

Foon Sham, 2009, *Yew #2*, yew wood, pencil on paper, 16.5" x 23.375"

Sarah Weinstock, 2011, still from *Rise* video, smoke and ash, 3:11 minutes

For more information please visit www.restonarts.org

Gallery Hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 11am – 5pm

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LineWorks: Drawing Redefined is sponsored in part by:



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