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MEDIA CONTACT

Thea L. Nichols

thea@edpaschkeartcenter.org

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Ed Paschke Art Center Announces Artist Residency

Gallery dedicated to exhibiting Chicago artists transforms into “open studio”

Chicago (February 5, 2015) The Ed Paschke Art Center (EPAC) is pleased to announce the launch of its Artist Residency program.

Developed in order to provide Chicago artists with the time, space, and resources they need to pursue their creative work, EPAC’s inspiring surroundings will give residents a professional platform to create and exhibit their work within.

EPAC partnered with Luminarts Cultural Foundation of the Union League Club Chicago on this initiative, which will host Luminarts Visual Arts Fellowship award recipients. The residency will re-occur annually, with a new set of artists slated to create and exhibit each spring.

The inaugural pair of artists identified for this opportunity are Erin M. Chlaghmo and John Metido. Beginning Monday, March 2, 2015 and running through April 26, 2015, the Ed Paschke Art Center (5415 W. Higgins Ave., Chicago IL) will welcome them on site in their Chicago Artist Gallery. They will exhibit finished works alongside transforming the space into an “open studio.” Viewers will be able to step in to their workspace and see art making in action, watching as they take a work from concept to completion over the course of the residency.

“One of the goals of the Ed Paschke Art Center is to support the careers of Chicago artists by providing them with a space to not just exhibit their work, but to engage with our community,” said Vesna K. Stelcer, chair of the Ed Paschke Foundation. “This residency program allows viewers access to the typically off limits, behind-the-scenes territory of an artists’ studio, similar to our installation of Paschke’s Howard Street Studio space already on site.”

Erin M. Chlaghmo uses textiles to create everything from large-scale installations to intimate wall hangings. The cultural references embedded within the materials and their patterning’s often address issues of belonging. She will be working with a Moroccan artisan to construct a working loom in her studio space. Fluent in Arabic, and, “...interested in making work that engages multiple communities,” Chlaghmo will be informally collaborating with members of Jefferson Park’s own sizable Muslim population in the creation of her work.

John Metido employs the centuries old technique of trompe l'oeil painting, but with a contemporary twist. Although his work is highly finished and realistically rendered, his subject matter are the cheap, mass produced toys and gag items one might find at American Science and Surplus, one of Paschke's favorite stores, and just up Milwaukee Avenue from the art center. Metido's usage of traditional painting techniques to depict pop subject lend his work its complex ambiguity.

About the Ed Paschke Art Center

The Mission of the Ed Paschke Art Center (EPAC) is to preserve and provide public access to the work of the legendary Ed Paschke; to serve as an educational resource for youth, adults, artists and academics; and to function as an accessible platform for artists to showcase their work.

Located in Chicago's Jefferson Park neighborhood, EPAC opened June 22, 2014, almost ten years after the artist's death, on what would have been his 75th birthday. Built in tribute to Chicago's most famous artist, EPAC provides permanent access to the world's largest public collection of Paschke's work. Architect John Ronan renovated EPAC's building, which houses 2,800 square feet of gallery space and 1,700 square feet of educational space, alongside a re-imagination of Ed Paschke's 2004 studio. The permanent collection showcases the Ed Paschke Family Foundation's holdings of the many styles and periods Paschke explored throughout his artistic career, which spanned from 1969 to 2004. The Chicago Artist Gallery is dedicated to exhibiting the work of

The Ed Paschke Art Center is proudly funded by The Rabb Family Foundation. Since its inception in 2013, the foundation has provided more than one million dollars to health, environmental and arts-related initiatives, including institutions such as the Ed Paschke Art Center and the National Veterans Art Museum. The Rabb Family Foundation works to support programs that overcome social and economic barriers as well as recognize citizens who have positively impacted the communities in which they live and work. Additional major supporters of the Ed Paschke Art Center include the 3M Company, Bank of America and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

The Ed Paschke Art Center is free and open to the public seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information call 312.533.4911 or visit edpaschke.org.

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