



Out of Context: Walter McNamara and Lynda Yuroff

McKinley Arts & Culture Center
Gallery East and West
June 16, 2014 – August 1, 2014

Galleries East & West in McKinley Arts & Culture Center host two exhibitions by renowned Nevada artists Walter McNamara and Lynda Yuroff. “Out of Context” pairs exhibits, “The Beer Chronicles” and “Sagewood Fictions” from McNamara and Yuroff, respectively. The title refers both to the distinct work of each artist as well as the materials used in this exhibit. McNamara and Yuroff have both taken found objects (images, graphics, wood etc.) and assembled selected pieces to make visual statements. One creates moods; the other observes and comments.

In “Beer Chronicles”, McNamara uses beer carton graphics. The familiar colors and textures are cut into bits, selectively reassembled and combined with evocative found images. The results are personal myths, mixtures of satire, pun and storytelling.

For Yuroff’s “Sagewood Fictions”, sagewood lying on the ground embodies the visual elements of line, texture and shape. Taken out of context, edited and manipulated by placement and color, the wood textures suggest water, directional movement and uncertain organic forms. Her found objects combined with the atmospheric elements of light and shade make a kind of poetic surrealism.

Walter McNamara has had 50 solo exhibitions since 1965. Since the early 1960s he has shown work in numerous prestigious galleries, including a major solo exhibit with catalog at the Nevada Museum of Art, the Whitney Museum Annual, Drawings USA, the Denver Art Museum and the Drawing Society National Touring Exhibit. He attended the University of Nevada, Department of Art, and eventually became curator of the Department’s Sheppard Fine Arts Gallery. He continues to work on collage and sculpture in his north Reno studio.

Lynda Yuroff’s paintings have been exhibited widely throughout Nevada and the western states. She formerly taught classes in painting and drawing at Truckee Meadows Community College and her work is represented in many local collections including Nevada Museum of Art, Bank of America, and John Deere Capital Corporation.

“Out of Context” is part of the 19th annual Artown festival, July 2014. The month-long summer arts festival features approximately 500 events produced by more than 100 cultural organizations and businesses in locations citywide.