

For Immediate Release 4/10/09
Fort Collins, Colorado

Contact: Marianne Lorenz
Phone: 970-482-2787
Email: mlorenz@fcmoca.org

Fort Collins Museum of Contemporary Art presents **Wynne/Wynne: The Art of Al and Lou Wynne**



From April 24 through May 27, the Fort Collins Museum of Contemporary Art will present an exhibition of the paintings of Al Wynne and the ceramic sculptures of his wife, Lou, in the museum's Mezzanine Gallery. The exhibition, organized by the Kirkland Museum of Art in Denver, was co-curated by the Kirkland's curator, Hugh Grant and artist Tracy Felix. It will be the first time that these two artists who are key figures in Colorado Modernism will be exhibited in Fort Collins.

Al Wynne is one of the most important abstract painters in the Western United States. He was a major force in the Broadmoor Art Academy—an institution that later became the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center. Wynne met his wife Lou, a ceramicist, while a student at Iowa Wesleyan College. In 1961 he became a professor of art at Colorado College. Al's paintings reflect his interest in calligraphy as well as his love of the beautiful Colorado scenery surrounding his home in the Black Forest area of Colorado Springs. Both Al and Lou are avid hikers, campers and fishers and the wilderness is everywhere incorporated—however subconsciously—into his abstract paintings and sculptures.

Lou Wynne was born in Iowa and upon her arrival in Colorado Springs she began to both absorb and contribute to the vibrant ceramics tradition that flourished there with the Van Briggle and the Broadmoor Art Potteries. Lou has become known for the castle-like towers and the bowls on stilts she forms using hand built techniques.

Westword art critic, Michael Paglia has stated that "Al and Lou Wynne are cultural treasures and important figures in Colorado art history."

Marianne Lorenz, FCMOCA's Executive Director states that "the museum is very honored that the Kirkland Museum and Hugh Grant have agreed to travel this outstanding exhibition to Northern Colorado so that our audiences can learn about and enjoy the work of these important Colorado artists." "We hope that this will be the first of many collaborations between the Kirkland Museum and FCMOCA."



FCMOCA is located at 201 S. College Avenue, Fort Collins, CO
Hours: 10am-6pm Tuesday - Friday; noon -5pm Saturday. Closed Sun. & Monday.
Admission fees: \$2.00 adults; FREE to FCMOCA members, students and children.