

**NEWS RELEASE**  
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**For Immediate Release**

**FORT COLLINS MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART**

Contact: Jeanne Shoaff, Director of Programs, 970-482-2787 or [jshoaff@fcmoca.org](mailto:jshoaff@fcmoca.org)

*Jennifer Scott McLaughlin: Above and Below the Surface* will be on view from December 11 through February 26, 2008.

*Insights: Art and Science* opens on December 18 and runs through March 22, 2008.

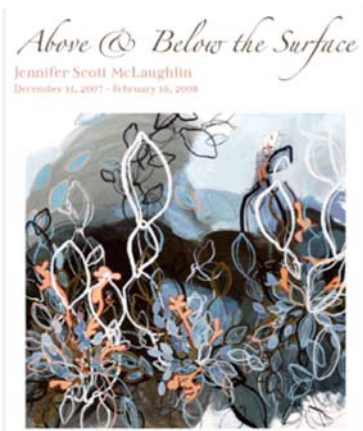
Artists' Reception for both exhibitions on First Friday, January, 4<sup>th</sup>, 6-9 p.m.



**From Beauty to Science, Art's Got it Covered.**

It's Beauty and the Geek this winter at FCMOCA. The Fort Collins Museum of Contemporary Art offers inspiration through beauty and engaging ideas based in science this winter. The long nights of winter inspire contemplation and psychic rejuvenation. It's a good time to curl up with a good book, or stroll through the galleries of your local art museum. From the beautiful contemporary landscapes of Fort Collins painter Jennifer Scott McLaughlin to the engaging collection of science-based artworks in the Main Gallery, the FCMOCA shows off the scope of the contemporary artist.

*Insights: Art and Science* features 30 works by twelve artists who use science as a basis for artistic inquiry and expression. The artists delve into diverse themes, exploring topics such as genetics, earth sciences, mathematics, biology and quantum physics. The actual works are no less diverse, including sculptures, installations, paintings, photographs, collage, ceramics and all manner of mixed media, including teeth and Petri dishes. Less a treatise in scientific theory and more inspiration for contemplating our universal connectedness, this exhibition is a jumping off point for imaginative thought and dialogue. What role does our genetic make-up play in determining our fate? What are the strands of string theory and quantum physics? What is the aesthetic nature of mathematics? Take some inspiration from an artists' query into the nature of the world around us and you've got enough fodder for the long winter ahead.



Upstairs in the Mezzanine Gallery, Jennifer Scott McLaughlin's exhibition of new paintings, *Above and Below the Surface*, transports us to a fantastical garden of sorts. With an eye for beautiful color palettes, delicate plant forms and bold abstractions, McLaughlin reinvigorates landscape painting. Long hours in her xeric home garden inspired the colors, forms and texture that show up in these jeweled works. McLaughlin starts with copper and silver leaf, giving the foundation of her paintings a glow that captures the Colorado sun in all seasons. The viewer will recognize the warmth of the desert, lushness of the mountains in spring, and the crisp joy of winter snow-scapes.

McLaughlin's close observation, and even the license she takes with the abstracted plant forms echo the works in the Main Gallery's art and science exhibition. Between scientific observation, inquiry and interpretation, the artists featured at the Fort Collins Museum of Contemporary Art this winter have much in common. Viewers will be inspired as the artists reveal and interpret the mysteries of the earth and universe.

*Jennifer Scott McLaughlin: Above and Below the Surface* will be on view from December 11 through February 26, 2008. *Insights: Art and Science* opens on December 18 and runs through March 22, 2008. There will be an opening reception for all of the artists on the Friday Friday, January, 4<sup>th</sup>, 6-9 p.m. Museum members benefit from a private reception with the artists from 5 – 6 p.m. To join the museum, visit [www.fcoca.org](http://www.fcoca.org).

### **Related Events:**

Gallery Talk with Jennifer Scott McLaughlin  
Tuesday, February 5, 7 p.m.

SpeakEasy with Jen Davey  
Informal Conversation About the Art  
INSIGHT: Art and Science  
Tuesday, January 15, 7 p.m.

Check at [www.fcoca.org](http://www.fcoca.org) for updated listings.

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