RED LODGE ARTISTS EXHIBIT AT RMC RYNIKER-MORRISON GALLERY

Re: Ryniker-Morrison Gallery Exhibit, Rocky Mountain College, January 10-February 6, 2013

For more information: Sally McIntosh, director, Rocky Mountain College Ryniker-Morrison Gallery, (406) 259-6563 / sally.mcintosh@rocky.edu or Andrea Moon, Residency and Communications Coordinator at the Red Lodge Clay Center, 406-446-3993

Image attached is the work (from left to right) of Karin Solberg, Alexis Gregg and Tanner Coleman, Brittany Helms, and Megan Mitchell.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BILLINGS -- The first exhibit in the Ryniker-Morrison Gallery in 2013 will be 5 x 5: Red Lodge Clay Center Resident Exhibition. The exhibit will open with a reception on Thursday, January 10 from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. The public is cordially invited. Each of residents will speak about their individual work during the reception. The exhibit will run through February 6. Gallery hours are 9-4 pm, M-F. The gallery will be closed on January 21 in observance of the Martin Luther King holiday.

This exhibit will focus on five Artists-in-Residence and their individual artworks from the Red Lodge Clay Center. The artists are Alexis Gregg, Tanner Coleman, Brittany Helms, Megan Mitchell, and Karin Solberg. Since arriving in Red Lodge, Montana on September 1, 2012 they have been getting acquainted with their private studios and discovering new ways of working with their already sophisticated processes in ceramics. They are at the Red Lodge Clay Center running the gallery, preparing the monthly Loft Exhibitions, being active technicians for the studio facilities, and constantly being a host to Red Lodge Clay Center Visiting Artists. These five artists will be Artists-in-Residence until August 2013.

ARTIST BIOS:
Alexis Gregg and Tanner Coleman
Alexis and Gregg first met at the University of Georgia where Alexis received a BFA in Ceramics and Tanner a BFA in Sculpture. Alexis also received an MFA from California State University Long Beach. Grant research trips, international residencies, and teaching have taken them around the globe including to Spain, France, Thailand and Taiwan. In three years they have completed 11 large-scale permanent works that have been installed in museums, schools and a public park. "Our collaborative work considers architecture and the objects and/or decor associated with sacred space. Functionality can take a forefront in what we produce while layered with cultural concepts, subtle irony, and questions of future generational decisions. We embrace the history of decorative architecture, the handmade, and timelessness."

Brittany Helms
She was born and raised in China Grove, North Carolina. She received her BFA in Ceramics from East Carolina University in 2009. After graduation she was an Artist-in-Residence at the Cub Creek Foundation in Appomattox, Virginia. In the fall of 2010 she went to Southern Illinois University of Carbondale for a Post Baccalaureate to learn various earthenware techniques of low fire ceramics. "I employ ceramic objects as physical devices and as symbols of domestic space. Smooth voluminous wares are reminders of the comforts and seemingly trivial details of our homes."

Megan Mitchell
Born in New Hampshire she holds a BA in Studio Art from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota with an emphasis in painting and printmaking. She was a studio assistant at Whitefish Pottery in Whitefish, Mont. In 2012 she received her MFA in Ceramics from Utah State University and was named USU's Graduate Researcher of the Year. Her work was featured in Ceramics Monthly in December 2011.
"Fences, doors, and windows indicate an intersection between inside and outside, public and private. These porous boundaries provide enclosure while also allowing access to an outside world. I am drawn to these divisions in space both as aesthetic and metaphorical objects."

Karin Solberg
Karin grew up in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. She received her undergraduate degree from James Madison University and completed her MFA in Ceramics from Utah State University in 2003. She has been an Artist-in-Residence at the Watershed Center for the Ceramics Arts in Maine and also Berea College in Kentucky. She has taught Ceramics at Northern Arizona University and Minnesota State University. "I produce pottery to celebrate craft, local food and our surroundings. A platter, containing a home cooked meal, initiates community between friends and family. The daily habit of using a handmade, thoughtful object is an important practice in this fast-paced, mass-produced world. My goal as an artist is to produce wares that invite art, health and pause in the everyday."

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