



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Terrain: Plateau Native Art & Poetry

September 1, 2015 - February 27, 2016 // Lynda M. Frost Contemporary
American Indian Art Gallery

Montana Book Festival: Kids Poetry Reading, September 12, 11:30 AM

Montana Book Festival: Poetry Reading with Debra Magpie Earling & Victor
Charlo, September 12, 1:30 PM

Montana Book Festival: *Streaming* by Allison Adelle Hedge Coke, September
12, 3:30 PM

Missoula, MT / August 31, 2015 / Missoula Art Museum (MAM) / “Defined by the crest of the Cascades to the Continental Divide, touching Northern California extending far north into British Columbia, *Terrain* speaks of the textures of the earth—the homeland of the Plateau people. This compilation of expressions, relief prints, and poems breathes the life of ongoing cultures inherent to place.” —Joe Feddersen from *Terrain: Plateau Native Art & Poetry*.

Terrain: Plateau Native Art & Poetry is a print portfolio donated to the Missoula Art Museum by artist and Evergreen State College Professor Emeritus Joe Feddersen. The book, curated by Feddersen, features 34 beautiful poems and woodcuts by a diverse range of American Indian artists from the Plateau peoples of the Columbia Basin. Included in the breathtaking line-up of talented artists are four of Montana’s own local legends: visual artists Corwin Clairmont and Jaune Quick-to-See Smith and poets Debra Magpie Earling and Victor A. Charlo.

Each hand-printed page will be displayed in MAM’s Lynda M. Frost Gallery, a gallery dedicated exclusively to featuring contemporary American Indian artists. This arrangement will allow the viewer to experience the beautiful portfolio in a continuous flow of verse and mark-making. In addition, MAM will feature a large-scale monoprint triptych created by Joe Feddersen at the University of Montana’s MATRIX Press in the spring of 2014. The triptych, entitled *Fish Trap*, displays Feddersen’s masterful approach to presenting traditional native objects in a modern, engaging manner. Feddersen donated *Fish Trap* to MAM’s Permanent Collection in 2014.

Terrain celebrates the unity, creativity, and diversity of the Plateau peoples and their deep connection to place. The portfolio features coyote stories, and the artworks address spiritual relationship to place, political concerns, descriptions of the land, and aspects of the family.

As Feddersen explains in his curatorial comments, “*Terrain* showcases the individual in the context of the larger group, bringing people together, creating new friendships, recalling common histories, and strengthening community.”

Although curated by Joe Feddersen, *Terrain* is clearly a labor of love involving many collaborators: “The success of *Terrain: Plateau Art and Poetry* is due to the generous funding from the Longhouse at the Evergreen State College, along with the guidance and assistance of Laura Grabhorn. We are indebted to Zoltan Grossman for the wonderful map of the Plateau, to

Commercial Printing of Wenatchee, Wash. for the cutting of the paper, and to the numerous volunteers like Vicki Harlan, Todd Clark, Susan Aurand, and Joe Tougas. Judith Baumann contributed to the success by guiding the printing and the artists, including Corwin Clairmont, Cameron Decker, Susan Sheoships, RYAN! Feddersen, Bill Passmore, Vanessa Enos, Ramon Murillo, Toma Villa, Ron Carraher, Miles Miller, Kirby Stanton & Joe Feddersen.” –From *Terrain: Plateau Art and Poetry*.

Missoula Art Museum would like to thank Joe Feddersen for the generous gifts of *Terrain* and the *Fish Trap* triptych, and Corwin Clairmont for taking our copy of *Terrain* to the opening celebration last fall in Olympia, Wash. to gather signatures by the artists. Both Joe and Corwin have been invaluable supporters of MAM over the years. This project is also supported by the Montana Arts Council, a state agency funded by the State of Montana and the National Endowment for the Arts

Contact: For more information, please contact the Missoula Art Museum at 406.728.0447; visit the MAM website at www.missoulaartmuseum.org or contact Ted Hughes, Collection & Registrar, ted@missoulaartmuseum.org, 406.728.0447 x222.

- END -

About MAM: FREE EXPRESSION / FREE ADMISSION. The Missoula Art Museum strives to engage artists and audience in the creative exploration of contemporary art relevant to our community, state and region. Founded in 1975 and accredited by the American Association of Museums since 1987, MAM showcases diverse and thought-provoking contemporary artwork from local and international artists. Gallery Hours: Tuesday- Saturday, 10 AM - 5 PM. Office hours: Mon-Fri, 9AM-5PM.