



## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

# Phoebe Toland: High Impact

February 17 - May 22, 2011// Carnegie Galleries

Art Guide Training: March 4, 4 PM

First Friday Artist Reception: March 4, 5-8 PM

Artist Gallery Talk: March 4, 7 PM

Abstract Painting on Paper Class: March 26-27, 10 AM - 3 PM

Missoula, MT / January 13, 2011 / Missoula Art Museum (MAM) / MAM is thrilled to host this versatile and multitalented Helena artist. Phoebe Toland received her BFA from Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, NY, and her MFA from Montana State University in Bozeman, MT, and has been featured in solo and group exhibitions extensively throughout the region. Her first solo exhibition at MAM celebrates and draws attention to an exciting new body of work.

The exhibition includes sculptures, paintings, and prints, but is built around the woodblock prints that Toland has been working on for the last two years. These prints are strongly informed by her approach as a painter. In Toland's work, the viewer counts on her ability to "abstract" and create highly resolved compositions through the layering of colors. With this new work, she adds an additional layer of translucency inherent in the medium of printmaking. Toland also extends the formal printed and painted works by creating technically beautiful sculptural forms with the prints. These sculptures, while formally resolved, complement the framed two-dimensional works and in a sense, become three-dimensional works.

Toland approaches her printmaking process much as she does the process of painting. It is important to note that these are not limited edition prints, but one of a kind works. She achieves her results through printing, layering, and collage. Instead of thinking of the print as a registered, one time pass through the press, these works are built layer upon layer.

Titles of works, such as *Spill*, *Rust Belt Redux*, *State of Mind*, and *East Meets West* speak to the human activities that have inspired the artist in her studio. While the work might appear abstract, the content, artist intent, and core of the work are inspired by world events.

"For some time my work has been focused on the interface between human activity and the natural world. Whether it's massive oil spills, rapid polar melting, desertification or

unrestricted growth, our impact is extreme. This planet is our only home, and needs to be treated with care. I transform these events or concerns into abstract compositions by using images, color, line, and shape to express those feelings.”

Contact: For more information please contact the Missoula Art Museum at 406-728-0447, visit the MAM website at [www.missoulaartmuseum.org](http://www.missoulaartmuseum.org) or contact Stephen Glueckert, Exhibitions Curator, [stevegl@missoulaartmuseum.org](mailto:stevegl@missoulaartmuseum.org), 406.728.0447 x226.

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**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: Wed-Fri, 10AM-5PM, Sat, 10AM-3PM. Office hours: Mon-Fri, 9AM-5PM.

MAM / 335 North Pattee, Missoula, MT 59802 / t: 406.728.0447 / [missoulaartmuseum.org](http://missoulaartmuseum.org)