

Akron Area Arts Alliance News Release

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Summit Artspace Opens Print Show & Theatre Production January 20

Akron, OH – The public is invited to join artists and actors at Summit Artspace on Friday, January 20 when this downtown arts center opens a new gallery exhibit and theatre production. Seven area artists are featured in “Prints at an Exhibition,” which will be on display in the first floor gallery. There will be a free opening reception from 5-7 pm. At 8 pm, Bang & the Clatter Theatre Company will present the dark comedy “Closer” on the second floor.

Exhibition artists are Charles Beneke, Rhea Butcher, Joan Colbert, Mary Alice Mathias, Janet Snell and Steve Levey of Akron and Claudia Berlinski of Kent.

Originally from Virginia, Beneke earned a MFA in printmaking from the University of Connecticut, worked as a graphic designer in New York City and now teaches at the University of Akron. Akron native Butcher, one of Beneke’s students, earned her printmaking degree in 2005. She will be showing silkscreen on fabric. Colbert, who won the 2005 Arts Alive! Award for Outstanding Visual Artist, is presenting a new series of linoleum block prints incorporating elements of collage. A graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Art, Mathias works in etching and aquatint. Snell, a graduate of the Maryland Institute of Art whose prints have been featured in several books, will be displaying linocuts. Levey’s surrealistic copperplate etchings grow from a stream of consciousness image-making technique. Berlinski teaches at University of Akron and Youngstown State. She holds a MFA in printmaking from Ohio State and will be exhibiting multi-block relief prints.

The exhibit will be on display until February 25. Summit Artspace Gallery, located at 140 E. Market St., is a project of the Arts Alliance in cooperation with Summit County government. It presents six exhibitions per year and is dedicated to displaying works by local artists. Admission and parking are free. Hours are Thursday-Saturday noon to 5 pm.

The Bang & the Clatter production will run through February 19 with performances Thursday through Sunday. Tickets are \$15. For more information, call 330-606-5317.