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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Headline

Artwork “Illuminates” Rare Vistas

New London, Connecticut, June, 2014 — Award-winning artist Mark Patnode will present new works in his “Illuminations” series November, 2014, at Alexey von Schlippe Gallery, University of Connecticut, Avery Point Campus.

The ‘Illuminations’ series began as a concept of showing those aspects in everyday life that are often inaccessible, rarely seen, or seen so briefly that retention is but a fleeting memory. “Because my schedule is a bit different from others, I would often catch vistas most folks do not see - especially seasonal sunrises.”

Implementation of traditional media and techniques are established in the process as he carefully chooses sites based on strong compositional dynamics. Yet Patnode marshals all his experience as an artist to capture instances and simplify the presentation by distilling the essentials. Mood is meaning and less attention to detailed work is the method.

That process began during Patnode’s 2010 Charter Oak painting, commissioned by the State of Connecticut for the State’s 375th Anniversary. As Patnode explained to then Governor Rell at the unveiling in Hartford, “I wanted an illuminated sky behind the Tree to express a sense of future hope.”

Though ‘Illuminations’ has its roots in Patnode’s ‘Trees’ series, this series has largely been an urban statement. “My hope is to bring those special times of access and make them more than memorable by making them available.” Comprised mostly of land and cityscapes, the “Illuminations” series explores action painting coupled with traditional American landscape.

Creative awareness and a sense of place have inspired Patnode from his beginnings in Nyack, New York while living on the banks of the Hudson River with the influence of the Hudson River School, Edward Hopper and proximity to New York City. His early exposure to an arts epicenter and subsequent study at Purchase College brought him towards experiencing the New York School. His study there with Nicholas

Marsicano continues to influence his current experience with the Connecticut art scene including impressionist and tonalist influences.

From these regional influences, Mark combines his fluency in traditional painting and love of action painting to harvest a revised concept of land and cityscapes. His current artwork expands the American landscape experience as he melds genres to a new expression of moment, mood, and color – vibrant color.

Patnode desires to take his artwork beyond visual and representational acuity and reach the viewer on color and dynamic levels. Key to his process is articulating that light influences everything because atmosphere is not only above but around everything – that whatever is around objects reflects color onto them. As the work matures, it becomes even more important, and more difficult, for Patnode to preserve and refine the initial inspirational impact. The tendency towards going into detail is always there.

“It’s a culmination of experiences – much in the way of a confluence of the pluralistic elements that now exist in painting. Texture takes an equal seat to line, form, and color.”

As quoted in a February 11, 2012 article by Sharma Howard, Special to The Day: “In our day-to-day journeys, we lose sight of the subtleties, complexities and intensities that really exist. I get excited seeing that last vestige of light hitting the side of the building during that last 45 seconds of light.”

For additional information contact:

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About the Artist:



Mark Patnode received his Bachelor of Fine Arts from Purchase College and is a Fellow of the Urban Artists Initiative Hartford, CT, funded by the National Endowment for the Arts and Connecticut State Office of the Arts (COA).

Listed in Who’s Who in American Art, Mark’s work has been featured in numerous museums and galleries and his work is in the Smithsonian Institution Permanent Collection. A Silver Rose recipient from Bulgaria’s Preeminent Poet, Lyubomir Levchev, Mark was sponsored by the Griffis & Orpheus Foundations

for a summer 2006 Artist Residency in the village of Polkovnik Serafimovo, Bulgaria.

Juried into the Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) Teaching Artist Directory, a reflection of excellence in both artistry and teaching, Mark conducts Teacher Artist Collaborations (TACs) through COA Arts in Education Higher Order Thinking (HOT) Schools.

Mark is an Elected Member of Salmagundi Club, Mystic & Norwich Arts Centers, Bulgarian-American Exchange Program Member, and has served on the Connecticut Arts Council.

More information about artist Mark Patnode can be found at: <http://www.marktheartist.com>

About Alexey von Schlippe Gallery:

The Alexey von Schlippe Gallery of Art was founded in 1992 at the University of Connecticut's Avery Point Campus. The campus is at the mouth of the Thames River on the Long Island Sound. The Museum is located in the Branford House Mansion, a 19,000 square-foot granite Tudor mansion built by Plant at the turn of the last century. The mansion itself is a treasury of carved, chased, sculpted, cast molded, and inlaid works of European craftsmen in oak, mahogany, walnut, onyx, marble, sandstone, bronze, iron, and plaster. The mansion, a registered property in the National Register of Historic Places, has gone through restoration and renovation in recent years, and has become the focal point of this seventy-three acre seaside campus.

The Alexey von Schlippe Gallery of Art features exhibitions of regional, national, and international artists. It is a policy and purpose of the AvS Gallery of Art to offer significant exposure to mid-career and emerging artists from across the complete spectrum of artistic expression, including those doing innovative or unconventional work. Our schedule includes six exhibitions each year, from the beginning of March until the middle of December. Each exhibition features the work of 3 or 4 artists, each artist having his or her own exhibition space.

We believe the gallery's offerings afford the public access and exposure to an enhanced diversity of creative works of art in every style and medium.

Alexey von Schlippe Gallery

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More information about artist [Alexey von Schlippe Gallery](#) can be found at:

<http://averypointarts.uconn.edu>

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