



2:00 p.m., artist Dennis Pinette will give a gallery talk about his exhibition. Both events are free for members or with admission.

The new exhibitions illuminate the journey many artists make from first observations and initial ideas to finished artworks. The focus is not on material process, but rather on mental process as it can be traced visually and verbally.

Dennis Pinette has been a convincing proponent and successful practitioner of Maine landscape painting that does not respond to the state's natural beauty but instead to its industrial, neglected, and chaotic elements. Finding beauty in a forest fire, a paper mill, abandoned train cars, or churned-up water, Pinette has been reinventing American landscape painting to encompass not just an extended range of subject matter, but also great depth of feeling and almost palpable energy.

Focusing on the subjects of fire, water, and dark woodlands, ***Expansion of Logic*** explores Pinette's trajectory from direct observation to defining sense in seeming chaos. Comprised of over 40 watercolors and oil paintings on paper mounted on canvas, the exhibition shows the artist's skill and process from quick sketches to imaginary scapes of timelessness. About his work Pinette says, "painting outdoors from direct observation serves as my catalyst to distill infinite geometries to believable fiction."

Pinette lives and works in his hometown, Belfast, after receiving his degree at the Hartford Art School in Connecticut in 1973. In 2003 he had a 15-year retrospective at the Farnsworth Art Museum in Rockland and his work is included in the permanent collections of the DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Garden, Portland Museum of Art, and the Colby College Museum of Art, as well as numerous private and corporate collections.

In the Main Gallery, ***First Traces*** assembles sketches, photographs, dream journals, doodles, and some finished art works by 86 artists who responded to a CMCA call to artists. When artists first explore ideas for future projects or quickly record a scene they encounter, some of the freshest, most uncensored work evolves. This exhibition of first conceptions represents visual artists, craft artists, furniture and jewelry makers, and other creative people working in a wide range of media from traditional sketchbooks to digital drawings. The artists have generously agreed to provide visitors with a unique opportunity to glimpse these first traces of inspiration; in fact, many sketch books may be handled and perused by visitors. These intimate encounters invite repeat visits to the gallery for concentrated immersions.

Artists in the exhibition are Susan Amons, Josefina Auslender, Dyan Berk, Nina Bohlen, Rush Brown, Sam Cady, Cole Caswell, Peter Chamberlain, Kate Cheney Chappell, Megan Chase, Avy Claire, Kenny Cole, Maury Colton, Stoney Conley, Alan Crichton, Rebecca Daugherty, Cynthia Davis, Scott Davis, Lois Dodd,

Charles DuBack, Evelyn Dunphy, Ingrid Ellison, David Estey, Joshua Ferry, Blair Folts, Nancy Freeman, Samuel Gelber, Shelia Geoffrion, Jessica George, Gregory Miguel Gomez, Susan Groce, Naushon Hale, Katherine Harman Harding, Connie Hayes, Jennifer Hodges, Frances Hodsdon, Gail Hollenbeck, Emily Hopkins, Matt Hutton, Phyllis Janto, Pamela Johnson, Marcy Kagan, Jeff Kellar, Mark Kelly, Sarah Knock, Anne Krinsky, Judith Krischik, Nick Lamia, Frederick Lynch, Alan Magee, William B. Martin, Phil McBride, Ed Nadeau, Tim Nihoff, Clyde Paton, Kit Pike, Victoria Pittman, Carlo Pittore, Amy Pollien, Jill Poyourow, Peter Precourt, Svetlana Prudovskaya, Abbie Read, Beverly Rhoads, Marguerite Robichaux, Bill Ronalds, Björn Runquist, Abby Sadauckas, Kris Sader, Lee Silverton, Owen F. Smith, Mara Sprafkin, Mike Stiler, Cheryle St Onge, Barbara Sullivan, Gwendolyn Tatro, Walter Tisdale, Lynn Travis, Jacques Vesery, Patricia Wheeler, Lucy White, Deborah Winship, Nancy Wissemann-Widrig, Henry Wolyniec, Victoria Woollen-Danner, and Sharon Yates.



*left to right: Dennis Pinette, Dark Sky, Burning Forest #2; Alan Magee, phone doodle*

For print-ready images, please call 207-236-2875 x302

---

The Center for Maine Contemporary Art (CMCA) is a nonprofit organization advancing contemporary art in Maine through exhibitions and educational programs. CMCA is located at 162 Russell Avenue in downtown Rockport. Summer Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am-5 pm. Sunday, 1-5 pm. Closed Monday. Winter Hours (starting Nov. 1) are Thursday through Saturday, 10 am-5 pm. Sunday, 1-5 pm. Closed Monday-Wednesday. General admission is \$5.00. Admission is free for members, Rockport residents and children. The facilities are fully wheelchair accessible. For more information phone 207-236-2875 or consult the website at [www.cmcanow.org](http://www.cmcanow.org).