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### **PITTSBURGH ARTIST'S WORK ON VIEW IN SAMA-ALTOONA EXHIBITION**

Altoona – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Altoona is pleased to announce the opening of its latest exhibition, *Kathleen Cochran Zimbicki: 45 Years of Color, 1970-2015*. On view January 20 through May 13 in the Museum's George A. and Herbert T. Wolf Gallery, the exhibition features more than 30 works by the popular Pittsburgh artist. The exhibition received rave reviews two years ago at its initial run at SAMA's Loretto Museum.

Long a fixture in the Pittsburgh arts scene, Zimbicki is noted for her lushly expressionistic watercolors. Commencing her career as a student of Henry Koerner in the early 1970s, she has since forged her own immediately recognizable style. Her compositions are at once bold and lyrical, and their large size and saturated color form a distinct contrast to the delicacy that is usually associated with the watercolor medium.

Taking their inspiration from family members, children's art, travel, and her own seemingly inexhaustible imagination, Zimbicki's subjects provoke wonder and humor in equal measure. Playful monsters, jewel-like bugs, and smiling goddesses all make joyful appearances. The artist is not without her serious side, however, and in other paintings, one senses Zimbicki's meditations on the human condition and the fragility of life.

*Kathleen Cochran Zimbicki: 45 Years of Color, 1970-2015* surveys the artist's work from her early plein-air Impressionism to her latest essays in watercolor. Featuring watercolors as well as works in other media, the exhibition highlights the innovative spirit and rich fantasy that are the hallmarks of Zimbicki's art. Drawn from the artist's studio and the Museum's own collection, *45 Years of Color* includes award-winning paintings from major juried exhibitions as well as works that have never before been shown in public. For those who love striking creativity, this exhibition will be a feast for the eyes.

To celebrate the exhibition, the Museum will host a Lunch a l'Art with the artist on January 25. The program, which begins at noon, includes lunch and a presentation by the artist. Cost is \$15 or \$14 for members. Reservations are required by calling the Museum at (814) 946-4464.

The Museum also will host a Wicked Wednesday reception on March 8. The program includes light supper and libations, as well as a musical performance by Raining Blue. Cost is \$25 per person. Please call the Museum for reservations.

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Altoona is located in the Brett Building at 1210 Eleventh Avenue. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. Saturdays. The Museum is a handicapped-accessible facility and is open to the public free of charge. Parking is available in the garage across the street or in metered spots in the lot at the rear of the building. For more information, call the Museum or visit [www.sama-art.org](http://www.sama-art.org).