



News

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South Dakota Art Museum showcases state artist's colorful work

BROOKINGS, S.D. — South Dakota Art Museum will host an exhibition of South Dakota artist Jenny Braig's oil paintings from Oct. 8 through Jan. 11, 2009 as part of the museum's ongoing shows that recognize the state's masterful artists.

Braig loves nature and uses it as a continual source of ideas and inspiration for her work.

Originally from Iowa, Braig received a degree in art with minors in art history and English from Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa before moving to Spearfish, which proved an ideal residence for the landscape painter.

"I paint landscapes because it is what I love and feel passionate about," explained the artist.

John Rychtarik, curator of exhibitions at the Art Museum, said Braig captures the vibrant colors of the Black Hills towering landscape and vastness of the adjoining prairies.

"Jenny captures the lavish reds of iron rich soil, the brilliant golds of rolling wheat fields, textural browns and oranges of tree trunks and the lush blues and greens of the pine needles as they direct viewers' eyes toward spacious blue, Dakota skies."

Braig says she hopes her work not only influences viewers emotionally by harkening memories of places they've seen, but also provides a sense of beauty in the work itself.

"I can see a little of Vincent Van Gogh's powerful use of color and brush strokes in Jenny's landscapes," Rychtarik said.

Braig lives in Spearfish with her husband and two daughters. She also volunteers at the Spearfish Art Center and teaches classes in painting and piano.

An artist's reception is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 24 from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. with Braig making a presentation in the SDAM auditorium at 5:30 p.m.

The reception is sponsored in part by Helen Gottleben in memory of her husband B.J.

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Photo 1: Jenny Braig's painting "Lightning Strike" is among those showing the vibrant colors of South Dakota landscapes that will be on exhibition at the South Dakota Art Museum beginning Oct. 8.



Photo 2: "Sunday Pines" shows shadows and bright light filtering through a Black Hills forest scene that is part of Jenny Braig's exhibition at the South Dakota Art Museum opening Oct. 8