HOMARE IKEDA FINE ART EXHIBITION AT Lone Tree Arts Center
Painter Opens His *Lines in Space* Show September 20

LONE TREE, CO – Painter Homare Ikeda will be featured at Lone Tree Arts Center (LTAC) as part of the 2013 Commissioners’ Choice program. The exhibition titled *Lines in Space* will be on display from September 20 – November 10. The public is invited to meet the artist at the opening reception on September 20, 5:30-7:30pm, prior to the Colorado Jazz Repertory Orchestra Concert at LTAC.

Lone Tree Arts Commission Chair Lucius Brooker noted, “I am pleased to announce the second in our series of Commissioners’ Choice Exhibits at the Lone Tree Arts Center. I am very excited that Homare Ikeda has accepted our invitation for this event. Homare is a celebrated artist local artist of national acclaim. I think you will find this world class work adorning the walls of the arts center to be stimulating and beautiful.”

Represented by Denver’s William Havu Gallery, Homare Ikeda was born on the subtropical island of Yoron, near Okinawa, Japan. After high school he left his small island world to explore Japan and India. Ikeda had no exposure to the world of fine arts but was interested nonetheless, teaching himself Oriental brush painting by copying pictures out of books and later becoming interested in contemporary art. In 1978 he moved to the United States. The artist credits a college professor in Stockton, California for setting him on the right artistic path and guiding Ikeda to the University of Colorado at Boulder where he received both a BFA and MFA. Today, the artist teaches both drawing and painting while continuing to show his work in group and solo shows and
expand his base of collectors. The exhibition, *Lines in Space*, is being organized by William Havu Gallery and Sally L Perisho, the City of Lone Tree’s recently appointed Curator.

Ikeda’s work can be linked to classic Abstract Expressionism and to the later Neo-Expressionism, but it’s difficult to see any traditional influence of Japanese painting. “My line, to me, is very Oriental,” the artist observes, “and the way I compose forms is Oriental, too.” This blending of East and West gives Ikeda’s paintings their unique look; a look that evokes an innocent time and yet is surprisingly revelatory when examined up close.

**Artist Statement**

To me, painting has become a vehicle to travel in and out of the world of unknown. A blob of paints is daubed, scratched, scraped and painted one layer upon another. The thickly painted surface is the reminiscent of my journey into the heart of sea where all my reflections of life are imbued. The sea is the genesis of the original form of life. I begin my painting with a simple vision. The first stages are usually kept fluid and open. As the painting progresses, I keep adding or scraping the layers of paints. I see them as the metaphor of life. At a certain point in this process, the painting starts to take over my control. The painting is transformed to the state of unknown. There, I put down my paintbrush. My journey into the dream of sea begins again.

Working with painting is mystical. I often don’t know what I am doing yet painting seems to know how and what to do. I spend many hours looking at painting as if painting is able to say something. When things are right it does speak. I add one more stroke and wait for her voice to come out. It is a fascinating space.

**Gallery Information**

The Commissioners’ Choice program is an artist invitational which provides a unique exhibition opportunity at LTAC. Each year, the Lone Tree Arts Commission supports emerging and professional artists by providing a venue to display their work in a public setting. With a rolling deadline, artists submit their art to be considered and reviewed year round. Artists are selected by demonstrating a meaningful body of work with an educational and informative component.
Viewing hours are Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm and prior to performances at the Lone Tree Arts Center. The show will be available September 20 – November 10 and the Opening Reception will be September 20, 5:30pm-7:30pm, prior to the Colorado Jazz Repertory Orchestra concert at LTAC. All artwork is available for purchase via the LTAC Box Office.

**About LTAC**

The Lone Tree Arts Center is a professional, innovative and environmentally friendly, LEED Certified venue. LTAC operates a dynamic model for the performing arts by collaborating with some of the premier Colorado performing arts companies to present their productions in Lone Tree as well as presenting national and regional tours. LTAC has quickly discovered its place as a new provider of arts education programs for children and an important meeting and event rental site for corporate, civic, private, and community arts groups.

For further information, contact Lone Tree Arts Center at 720-509-1000 or visit [www.LoneTreeArtsCenter.org](http://www.LoneTreeArtsCenter.org).

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