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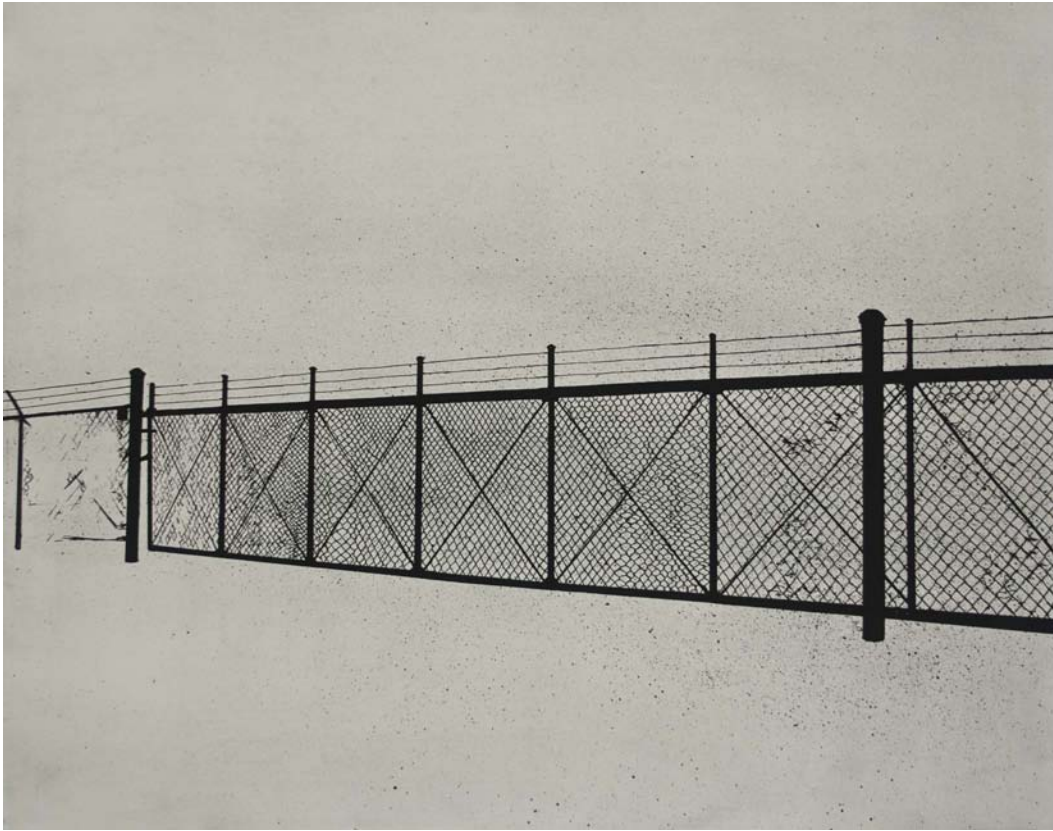
**“Across the Divide” Exhibit
Focuses on Eastern Washington Artists**

Seattle, Washington, September 4, 2009 -- It's been 15 years since a prominent art critic wrote that eastern Washington artists drew their inspiration from a sense of isolation (Regina Hackett, *Seattle P-I*, November 3, 1995). And while Seattle now has galleries associated with eastern Washington (PUNCH), large group shows that survey both academic and non-academic artists in a wide variety of media are few and far between.

Artists from the “dry side” no longer feel the same sense of isolation in our age of instant communication, yet the physical characteristics of the landscape remain unchanged. Today their inspiration draws from far more than their natural surroundings and, as this exhibit clarifies, they are just as experimental and equally inclined toward abstraction as their west-side colleagues are.

“Across the Divide” will run from September 17, 2009 through October 10, 2009, with an artists' reception on Thursday, Sept. 17 from 6 – 10 pm at both CoCA galleries and free shuttle service between Ballard (6413 Seaview Ave NW) and Belltown (1st and Clay).

Artists include: Michelle Acuff (Walla Walla), Kevin Bell (Missoula), Michelle Forsyth (Pullman), Kevin Haas (Pullman), Ryan Hardesty (Spokane), Chris Ireland (Pullman), Yuko Ishii (Riverside), Nicklous Meisel (Pullman), Megan Murphy (Spokane), Joseph Peila (Royal City), Reza Safavi (Pullman), Selene Santucci (Pullman), Mark Sherer (Stehekin), Richard Schindler (Spokane), Barbee Teasley (Leavenworth), Pedro De Valdivia (Pasco), and Steve Ward (Twisp).



Kevin Hass, *East Spokane: Trent Ave 01*
Lithograph on paper dusted with toner powder. 20" x 26". 2009.



Michelle Acuff, *Untitled*,
7x14x2", cast glass, steel, 2008.

Across the Divide: Contemporary Art from the Scablands and Beyond
Center on Contemporary Art 2009



Barbee Teasley, *Peggy Losses the Fight*
Oil, 30x40", 2008



Mark Scherer, *DUO*
15" X 6" X 2" - maple with hammer heads - 2009

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