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LOCAL ARTIST BRINGS FANTASY TO THE CENTRAL COAST

The Mythic-Fantasy Art of Rosey Rosenthal on Display at Studios on the Park

Paso Robles, California – Resident artist of STUDIOS ON THE PARK, Rosey Rosenthal presents his visions of powerful gods, fantastic creatures, legendary heroes and seductive femme fatales in his Mythic-Fantasy Art show starting August seventh. The local printmaker aims to share his reinterpretations of Greek and Roman mythology with the Central Coast community.

Rosenthal draws his inspiration from a childhood spent enthralled with the tales of Marvel, Mad, and EC Comics. He reflects, "When I started art school, I knew more about comic book artists than the famous fine artists." Both his interests and his artwork have since evolved. From the amusing comic books of his childhood to the established accounts of Greek and Roman mythology, he has maintained a lifelong fascination with fanciful tales.

His creative process is launched by the defining moment of the character. "The hero or heroine in most stories, whether fantasy, folklore, or myth has a moment when he must choose between good or evil, persist or give up," says Rosenthal of his muses. It is his goal to reinterpret the classic morals to speak to a contemporary aesthetic. An emphasis on the human form and attention to elaborate details reveal his unique point of view. The medium he works in, etching (also called gravure or intaglio), is a technique that dates back to the Middle Ages in Europe and allows for a very fine line for an embossed, detailed drawing. Etching lends itself both to the period from which Rosenthal derives his subject matter and to the style in which he feels he can best portray it.

For Rosenthal, the exhibition is unique to the Central Coast area for two reasons, "it doesn't have vineyards, plain air landscape painting, or cute animals and the medium is etching" He trusts the emergence of mythology in pop culture has familiarized his viewers with the subject matter. "People really want something a little different," Rosenthal explains, "if fantasy and mythology speaks to them, they'll be happy here."

STUDIOS ON THE PARK was founded in December of 2007 as a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing a creative, educational, and transformational experience to enhance understanding and appreciation of the visual arts. STUDIOS ON THE PARK realizes its commitment by making the creative process available to the public. STUDIOS engages and

inspires the San Luis Obispo County community and its visitors with a unique open studio environment. STUDIOS features artists working in a variety of media, educational programs for children and adults, and quality exhibitions by regional, national and international artists.

STUDIOS ON THE PARK is located at 1130 Pine Street in historic downtown Paso Robles. For more information, visit www.studiosonthepark.org or call 805-238-9800.