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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - Wednesday, September 11, 2024

**American Jewish Museum of the JCC Presents
Judy Robinson and Kara Snyder: The Art of Friendship**

Pittsburgh, PA—The American Jewish Museum of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh proudly presents **Judy Robinson and Kara Snyder: The Art of Friendship**, an evocative exhibition featuring 21 paintings by acclaimed Pittsburgh-based artists Judy Robinson and Kara Snyder. This distinct collection celebrates the dynamic collaboration and enduring friendship between the two artists, exploring how their distinct styles harmonize to create a powerful artistic dialogue. The exhibition is on view from through December 20 at the JCC's American Jewish Museum.

Through their commitment to collaboration, Robinson and Snyder's creative journey embodies the essence of the havruta tradition—a Jewish method of collaborative learning rooted in friendship. This practice, based on engaging in deep, thought-provoking dialogue, is beautifully captured in their work, reflecting the proverb, “Just as in the case of iron, when one implement sharpens another, so too do two scholars sharpen each other.”

- The exhibition thoughtfully pairs Robinson’s and Snyder’s works, drawing parallels in their use of line, hue and intensity, while showcasing each artist’s unique voice. The selection invites viewers to experience the visual synergy that arises from their shared exploration of themes and ideas.
- The only figurative portraits in the exhibition, Robinson’s *Maya* and Snyder’s *Painting with Patrick ‘Model Study’*, pay tribute to their shared mentor, Patrick Daugherty, whose influence at the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts profoundly shaped their artistic development. These works underscore the lasting impact of mentorship and the strength found in mutual artistic support.
- Robinson’s still life *Everyday* captures the essence of the artists' friendship, featuring pairs of elements—such as clouds, pears, and wine glasses—that symbolize their bond. The inclusion of Snyder’s abstract work within Robinson’s painting emphasizes the seamless integration of their artistic sensibilities, with the title *Everyday* highlighting the enduring nature of their connection.

“*The Art of Friendship* is a testament to the strength of relationships forged through creative connections,” said Melissa Hiller, JCC Community Engagement and Development Officer. “This exhibition not only showcases the works of Robinson and Snyder but also reflects the profound impact of collaboration, mentorship, and friendship in the artistic process.”

Details:

- **Dates:** September 4 – December 20, 2024
- **Location:** American Jewish Museum/JCC of Greater Pittsburgh, 5738 Forbes Avenue, Squirrel Hill
- **Opening Reception:** Sunday, September 29 at the JCC, 3-5pm, free and open to all
- **Gallery Hours:** Monday-Thursday: 6 am-9:30 pm; Friday: 6 am-6 pm; Saturday and Sunday: 8 am-5 pm
- **Admission:** Free

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