

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Colorado Springs Artist Couple Joins Hunter-Wolff Gallery

**Colorado Springs, January 18**—Westiders Karen Pierce and Marc Jenesel are the first new comers in 2010 to join the Hunter-Wolff Gallery award-winning stable of artists. This husband and wife team is no stranger to Colorado Spring's art scene but in a proactive move to exhibit in a handful of top-rated galleries approached owner Sharon Wolff.

"It's not only challenging for artists to find the right outlet for their work, but it is as challenging for gallery owners to select what is desired by art enthusiasts and patrons. It took me only a matter of seconds to decide this work met my high standards and makes a great addition. I can't wait for customers to see their work," said Sharon Wolff. Apparently, this partnership has been in the works for about five weeks but has been kept under wraps for a New Year's announcement.

Karen Pierce and Marc Jenesel have been collaborating to deliver beautiful sculptural vessels using raku-fired clay, fiber, metal, stone and other natural materials for about ten years. They built their reputation through the annual Pikes Peak Studio Tour and several other Colorado galleries. Marc is the clay artist and has perfected his technique for rich colors, unexpected textures and flowing shapes. His wife, Karen, spends hours intricately weaving natural grasses and reeds to top off Marc's raku for an exquisite treasure. Much of their combined work includes brass coins, delicate shells from the sea, and little jewel accents like chalcedony and carnelian. The combination of these and other materials is a feast for your eyes. These stunning beauties make a statement as a focal point on a pedestal or grouped as a collection.

Marc and Karen explain that their work is about relationships—how they relate to each other and to the materials they use to bring symmetry to the final piece. "It's a dance of the media, combining colors, textures, clay and fiber, and our own unique designs for an elegant work of art." Each piece is a harmonious marriage of Marc's colorful raku vessel with Karen's intricate fiber work.

With more than 30 years experience in visual media, Marc is a graphic artist and animator but dedicates his free time to creating raku pottery. With his science background and experience, he is able to obtain the range of textures and glaze colors through chemistry and post-firing reduction. He explains, "Much of my education is in the sciences. I believe art and science run parallel courses. As science has become more abstract, so has art. I think a well-rounded education in the arts requires some study of the sciences." His results are remarkable and formulated for juicy color and texture before being handed off to Karen. Karen then applies her traditional basket weaving techniques and materials from around the world in unconventional ways to create the final, one-of-a-kind piece. She weaves free hand without molds and colors the fibers with dye or paint.

A body of work by the Pierce-Jenesel team along with 30 other fine artists is available ongoing at Hunter-Wolff Gallery located at 2510 W. Colorado Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO, and samplings can be viewed at [www.hunterwolffgallery.com](http://www.hunterwolffgallery.com) or [www.hunterwolffgallery.com/gallery](http://www.hunterwolffgallery.com/gallery) Contact 719-520-9494 for details.