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Morgan Arts Council – Berkeley Springs, WV
304-258-2300 – www.macicehouse.org

ARTISTS BREAK NEW GROUND IN ICE HOUSE SHOW

BERKELEY SPRINGS, WV --- Expect the unexpected from favorite regional artists in Plan B: Alternate Media, opening Friday, January 9, with a meet-the-artists opening reception at 7:30 PM in the Ice House Gallery. Produced by the Morgan Arts Council, the exhibit features works from artists experimenting outside their usual media. The exhibit hangs through March 1.

“It’s important for artists to consider a Plan B – to try new approaches to creative expression,” said curator Jane Frenke. “Doing something unfamiliar can open you up to a whole new creative process.”

One of the 20 artists in the show, Peter Wood, is a noted metal sculptor. For Plan B, his medium of choice is photography including abstract close-ups of his own work. Sonya Meeker, a lab technician, is exploring different forms of pottery. Painter Jonathan Heath demonstrates his trademark humor with clothes racks and other constructions made from found objects. Harvey Kirstel traded layering oils for the immediacy of watercolors. “I have found the change both refreshing and enjoyable,” says Kirstel.

Two additional gallery spaces showcase exhibits of two local artists also opening on January 9. Richard Kaufman’s ink and color on rice papers and Joan Fleming Smith’s abstract expressionist paintings are hung in the Hall of Dreams first-floor gallery and Carr-Kelly second-floor gallery, through March 1. “These new galleries allow us to expand what we show to include solo shows,” said Frenke.

The Ice House Gallery and the Hall of Dreams and Carr-Kelly galleries are open Saturday and Sunday, 11am to 5pm. Grant support for the gallery shows comes in part from the National Endowment for the Arts, West Virginia Commission on the Arts and local hotel/motel taxes. The Ice House is located at Independence and Mercer Streets. For more information, call 304-258-2300 or check online at www.macicehouse.org.