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***Susan Ringstad Emery* exhibition opens at Nordic Heritage Museum September 8, 2017**

August 25, 2017 / Seattle, WA—Nordic Heritage Museum is delighted to announce its final exhibition in its current facility, which features the work of Seattle-area contemporary artist *Susan Ringstad Emery* and opens September 8. The daughter of an Iñupiat mother and a Norwegian/Swedish father, Ringstad Emery lightheartedly describes herself as an “urban Iñupiat and a Norwegian who doesn’t look the part.”

The exhibition will feature Ringstad Emery’s contemporary native art, which ranges from cave-art-inspired mixed-media works on panel to graphite on paper. Her work explores and celebrates her blended heritage, featuring subjects that speak to her two cultures, including reindeer, coastal landscapes, ravens, shamans, and the Northern Lights.

“We’re so pleased to be exhibiting Susan Ringstad Emery’s work in the Museum,” said Eric Nelson, Nordic Heritage Museum CEO. “Susan’s paintings speak to the rich complexity of interwoven cultural identity. Her work seamlessly occupies the space between past and future, celebrating her ancestry while infusing it with a contemporary vision. I can think of no better artist to see the Museum into its transition period.”



Untitled Landscape © Susan Ringstad Emery



Ulv © Susan Ringstad Emery

Ringstad Emery's captivating cultural background is part of a long history of Nordic and native peoples making lives together in North America. In fact, her story was the first to be collected for Nordic Heritage Museum's new Nordic-American oral history program, titled *Interwoven: The Blended Heritage of Nordic and Native Peoples*.

Susan Ringstad Emery's artwork has been exhibited at Grand Central Terminal NYC, Peabody Essex Museum, Alaska Native Heritage Center, Alaska Native Arts Foundation, and Seattle Municipal Tower. It is in corporate and private collections around the world, including Dena'ina Wellness Center Kodiak, Alaska, and corporate boardrooms at Bering Straits Native Corporation and the Native Village of Eklutna.

The Member Preview is at 6 p.m. on Thursday, September 7, and the exhibit opens to the public on Friday, September 8. Visitors are also encouraged to RSVP for a special gallery talk with the artist herself at 2 p.m. Saturday, September 9. There, she'll speak to her work, her artistic process, and how her understanding of place, belonging, cultural heritage, and identity has impacted her life and art. The exhibition will be on view through November 12.

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About the Nordic Heritage Museum

With more than 65,000 visitors annually, the Nordic Heritage Museum is a cultural treasure in the Pacific Northwest. It is the only museum in the United States that represents the rich heritage of all five Nordic countries: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden. The Museum's mission is to share Nordic culture with people of all ages and backgrounds by exhibiting art and objects, preserving collections, providing educational and cultural experiences, and serving as a community gathering place. The Nordic Heritage Museum presents a wide range of vibrant programs including contemporary art exhibitions, outstanding concerts, lectures, and films, as well as a variety of special events throughout the year.

*Nordic Heritage Museum is currently located at 3014 NW 67th Street, Seattle, WA 98117.
Museum hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday noon to 4 p.m.; closed Monday
Admission: \$8 general; \$7 seniors & college students; \$6 children 5 and older;
FREE for children under 5 and Museum members; free on first Thursday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.*