



JRB ART AT THE ELMS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EVENTS

Opening Reception

Fri, July 5, 2019, 6 – 9 pm

JRB Art at The Elms Presents

Rebecca Wheeler “Woman Revealed”

OKLAHOMA CITY – Longtime Oklahoma City resident and beloved artist, Rebecca Wheeler, will be exhibiting her latest collection of paintings, “Woman Revealed,” at JRB Art at The Elms in The Paseo during the month of July 2019. Wheeler has spent her entire life mastering the language of paint in her unique, intuitive, gestural style. She has always focused on the human condition, particularly the human condition of being female. She has painted series of women working, playing, singing, dancing, and reading. She has depicted them as angels, the disenfranchised, mothers, daughters, and friends. Rebecca has painted women from the Bible from a practicing feminist point of view, but until she created the paintings for this exhibit, she has not painted female nudes as subject matter. Recently, realizing that the strength of her work has progressed so that layers of paint give way to reoccurring images which suggest and project the essence of being a woman, Wheeler has created an entire series of female nudes.

After viewing the paintings included in “Woman Revealed,” New York City based Art Curator, Julie Maguire, reminds us that the female nude has been addressed by artists in almost every culture in every time in history. She is seen as mother, lover, victim, and queen, but almost always exclusively as the images and imaginings of men. Maguire continues by saying that throughout history that have been female artists,

although those willing to address the female nude an even smaller group. “Rebecca Wheeler has tackled the subject and gives us the female form as seen by a woman.” The alternate gaze of the woman in art history is a thinner thread, but it does exist. Artists such as Vigee LeBrun, Mary Cassatt, Georgia O’Keefe, and Ms. Wheeler’s own teachers, Elaine Kooning and Carol Summers all created at the highest level.

Joy Reed Belt, Director of JRB Art at The Elms comments that the women revealed in this exhibition are strong and able, young and old, “The minimalist forms create an authenticity in each work. These women are not fantasy or here for our pleasure, they are true and open. Strong forms mixed with bright pastel backgrounds, do not try to negate femininity, but celebrate the myriad contrast in every woman.”

Wheeler has studied at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, Oklahoma City University, San Francisco Art Institute, the New York Studio School in Paris, France, the University of Oklahoma, the Arts Student League in New York City and the American Cultural Center in Paris, France. Additionally, she has participated in workshops with Elaine De Kooning, Carol Summers, Jose De Creeft and Nam June Paik. Her work is represented in public and private collections including The Duchess of York, Sarah Ferguson, Warner Brothers records, The Mondrian in Los Angeles, Skywalker Ltd., Sausalito, California, Hotel LaJolla, Paul Ruscha and the Telelink Corporation in Denver.

About JRB Art at the Elms

JRB Art at The Elms presents a diverse roster of emerging, established, and internationally exhibited artists who create in a wide range of media including paintings, drawings, sculpture, ceramics, glass, fine crafts, functional objects, fiber art and photographs. This 8,000-square foot award-winning gallery in Oklahoma City’s Paseo Arts District changes its exhibits monthly in a gracious environment that fosters a dialogue between the arts and the larger community while providing quality art for first time buyers as well as individual, corporate and museum collections.

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