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Larson, associate professor of studio art, featured on Pioneer Public Television’s new “Postcards” program

Summary: The program features art, history, and cultural topics from a western Minnesota perspective.

(June 24, 2010) - Jess Larson ’92, University of Minnesota, Morris associate professor of studio art and artist, and her work will be featured on Pioneer Public Television’s new program “Postcards” on Sunday, June 27, 2010, at 7 p.m. “Postcards” is a weekly 30-minute show featuring art, history, and cultural topics from a western Minnesota perspective.

Larson’s episode reflects on her on-going exploration of feminism’s impact on contemporary artmaking using her recent Humanities Fine Arts Gallery exhibition as a backdrop. Feminist—the other f-word featured work by Larson and invited artists—former students and colleagues—that highlighted feminism’s positive and empowering aspects. Larson’s contributions to the exhibit were from Look and Learn, Little Girl, a series of two-dimensional works based on 1950s mass media imagery.

“This continuing series examines language associated with women’s roles and behaviors as they negotiate personal relationships,” shares Larson. “The collection is a humorous and approachable means to discuss how women perceive their ‘place’ and the conflicting messages that have been internalized via social conditioning. It acts as a sort of ‘primer’ to educate a younger more dubious audience, to coax them to see things more critically, and to examine their choices without feeling external pressures to conform to ill-fitting or outdated mores.”

Larson earned a master of fine arts from the University of Colorado, Boulder. She teaches a variety of courses that include drawing, 2-D and 3-D design, photography, and digital imaging.

In addition to the June 27 airing, Larson’s episode will be rebroadcast on Pioneer Public Television on Monday, June 28 at 12:30 p.m. and Thursday, July 1 at 7 p.m., and then posted for viewing on the station’s Web site.

“Postcards” is funded by a Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund grant and produced by Eric Olson, an Emmy winning television reporter with 20 years of experience in television news production, including 12 years as a reporter and anchor at KARE-TV in Minneapolis. Joe Carucci, University of Minnesota, Morris assistant professor of music, composed the theme music for the show. Athena Kildegaard, University of Minnesota, Morris English teaching specialist, contributes her writing talent to the program.

Pioneer Public Television is a Public Broadcasting System (PBS) affiliate serving more than 375,000 households across Minnesota, South Dakota, and Iowa.

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