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FAU to Host Alaskan Visual Artist Susan Share for ‘Animated Library’ Performance, Workshop, Gallery Talk and Exhibition

BOCA RATON, Fla. (October 2, 2013) — The Arthur and Mata Jaffe Center for Book Arts at Florida Atlantic University will host “Animated Library,” a stage performance featuring Alaskan visual artist and bookbinder Susan Share and her dramatic artwork on Friday, Oct. 18 at 7 p.m. at the University Theatre, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton campus.

Share creates kinetic forms, architectural spaces, costumes and experimental books that integrate visual art, movement and sound. Her work combines techniques and materials from bookbinding, sewing, painting, collage and sculpture.

During performances, Share’s colorful architectural work mesmerizes the audience as her magical, book-like sculptures unfold, transform and fill the stage. Her dynamic art pieces become instruments of sound and motion as they awaken, flow, fill and expand.

“Artists’ books are very often more about experience than about information and Susan Share’s books are completely the experience. The experience is the performance,” said John Cutrone, director of the Jaffe Center at the Wimberly’s Library. “I can’t think of anyone who is doing what Share is doing. She is helping to further redefine our concept of the book.”

General admission at the door is self-determined (suggested $18 per person) for the performance and a Q&A that follows. Admission is free for FAU students. Directions and parking information for the University Theatre is at www.fau.edu/theatre/prod_map.php.

The performance’s date coincides with the opening of “Animated Library, the Artists’ Books of Susan Joy Share,” an exhibition of Share’s artwork that will be displayed at the Wimberly Library through Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014. The exhibition, which is free and open to the public, will be in the first floor lobby atrium, the second floor adjacent to the administrative office and the third floor at the Jaffe Center.

Share will also lead “Sculptural Books: Combining Structures,” a two-day workshop, on Saturday, Oct. 19, and Sunday, Oct. 20, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day at the Jaffe Center. The workshop will focus on the book as sculpture, structure and container for words and images.
Participants will learn to incorporate structural and visual ideas into a single book and address constructions and methods of gluing, sewing, folding and hinging. Tuition is $175 for the general public, $155 for FAU faculty and staff and students from other institutions and $135 for FAU students. To register, email jcutrone@fau.edu. For more information, call 561-297-0455 or visit www.jaffecollection.org.

The public will have a chance to hear Share discuss her work during an “Animated Library Gallery Talk” on Tuesday, Oct.22 at 5:30 p.m. at the Jaffe Center. The talk is free and reservations are not necessary. Donations to the center’s education fund are appreciated.

Share’s artwork is included in collections at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C., the Brooklyn Museum of Art, the Victoria and Albert Museum in the United Kingdom and the Jaffe Center for Book Arts. She has been featured in performances and her work has been in exhibitions in England, Ireland, Hungary and throughout the U.S.

The exhibition of Share’s work at the Wimberly Library can be viewed during regular library hours, which are Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to midnight; Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday from noon to 6 p.m.; and Sunday from noon to midnight. The library will be closed on Nov. 11 for Veterans Day, Nov. 28 and 29 for Thanksgiving and Dec. 24 through Jan. 5, 2014, for winter break. For more information on the exhibition, call John Cutrone at 561-297-0455, or visit www.jaffecollection.org or www.facebook.com/jaffecenterforbookarts.

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Photo Captions:


About Florida Atlantic University:

Florida Atlantic University, established in 1961, officially opened its doors in 1964 as the fifth public university in Florida. Today, the University, with an annual economic impact of $6.3 billion, serves more than 30,000 undergraduate and graduate students at sites throughout its six-county service region in southeast Florida. FAU’s world-class teaching and research faculty serves students through 10 colleges: the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, the College of Business, the College for Design and Social Inquiry, the College of Education, the College of Engineering and Computer Science, the Graduate College, the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College, the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing and the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science. FAU is ranked as a High Research Activity institution by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The University is placing special focus on the rapid development of three signature themes – marine and coastal issues, biotechnology and contemporary societal challenges – which provide opportunities for faculty and students to build upon FAU’s existing strengths in research and scholarship. For more information, visit www.fau.edu.