



JANUARY 29, 2013 - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ***Director's Choice: 14 Years at the Taos Art Museum*** **New Exhibition Celebrates the Tenure of Erion Simpson, Retiring Executive Director**

*Taos, New Mexico* – The Taos Art Museum announces the opening and reception for the new exhibition, DIRECTOR'S CHOICE: 14 YEARS AT THE TAOS ART MUSEUM. This exhibition honors the retiring Director, Erion Simpson, by showcasing her favorite important works from the permanent collection. Ms. Simpson will also give the opening lecture on February 9, from 2 – 4 PM. Ms. Simpson has been the Director for more than 13 years and oversaw the reinstallation of the entire collection into the current location in 2002 when the Museum acquired the unique, historical home of artist Nicolai Fechin, a member of the Taos Society of Artists.

"Erion Simpson not only assured the future of the collection in its reinstallation in the Fechin House," commented V. Susan Fisher, the Museum's new Executive Director, "she also has an unsurpassed gift for telling the story of the painters and patrons behind each work of art."

At the start of 2013, Ms. Fisher was announced as the new Executive Director/Curator. Ms. Fisher comes to the Museum from Santa Fe where she served as Director of Development for the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum. Her previous experience includes directing the grant program at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, one of the top five art museums in the country.

"I could not be happier or more honored by this opportunity to advance the mission of the Taos Art Museum and Fechin House," said Fisher. "I look forward to working with institutions and members of the community to promote Taos as one of the country's premier cultural destinations."

"The Directors of the Taos Art Museum are delighted to have such a talented successor to Erion Simpson, who has provided such dedicated leadership for thirteen plus years," said Board of Directors President, Jerry Geist. Board member Roy Coffee, who was the President of the Board in 2002 during the relocation of the collection to the Fechin House, added "This reception and lecture for the new exhibition celebrates and honors Erion's remarkable accomplishments and allows us to introduce Susan at the same time."

What: DIRECTOR'S CHOICE: 14 YEARS AT THE TAOS ART MUSEUM

Where: Taos Art Museum/Fechin House, 227 Paseo del Pueblo Norte, Taos, New Mexico 87571

When: February 9, 2013, from 2-4 PM

Cost: Admission to the reception is free of charge.

Contact: For more information, please call (575) 758-2960 or email [museum@taosartmuseum.org](mailto:museum@taosartmuseum.org).

Website: [www.taosartmuseum.org](http://www.taosartmuseum.org)

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**About the Taos Art Museum:** The Taos Art Museum is dedicated to the art of early twentieth century Taos and the patrons who have nurtured and preserved it for the future. The museum's Board and Trustees are focused on bringing Taos art back to Taos to be exhibited in the place where it was created. The museum is housed in the studio and home that artist Nicolai Fechin built for his family between 1927 and 1933. The heart of the museum is a collection of paintings by the masters of the Taos Society of Artists.

For further information about museum hours and events, please contact to Ellen Rink at (575) 758-2690, X 103, [museum@taosartmuseum.org](mailto:museum@taosartmuseum.org), or visit [www.taosartmuseum.org](http://www.taosartmuseum.org).