

PRESS RELEASE

Alaska State Museum

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: through April 14

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 465-2901

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Stones, sticks and bones inspire spring show at State Museum

The subtle and stark beauty of objects emerging from snow inspired Anchorage artist Don Decker to create his new solo exhibition, *Disclosures*, which opens March 9 at the Alaska State Museum. The exhibition runs through April 14, 2007. Decker gathered ideas and materials for the abstract sculptural art during spring hikes with his dogs, where he noticed stones, sticks and bones framed by snow melt.

“In breakup time, when things appear through the snow, it’s kind of intriguing to me,” Decker said. “Sometimes it’s not all that aesthetic – a piece of rotten wood sticking through the snow or bones from old Fido – disturbing in a way, but it’s reality.”

The exhibition features 27 works, many using poured resins, Eglass, acrylic and wood. Some are viewed through small lenses, exploring the way images distort when seen through water or ice.

This is Decker’s 40th solo show, though his first at the Alaska State Museum. Decker has been an active member of Alaska’s art community as artist, teacher, gallery owner and art reviewer. In 2006 he was honored with the Outstanding Individual Artist award from the municipality of Anchorage. He has works in the public art collection of the Municipality of Anchorage, the Contemporary Art Bank of the Alaska State Council on the Arts, and in the collections of the Anchorage Museum of History and Art and the Museum of the North in Fairbanks.

An opening reception will be held from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Friday, March 9. Admission is free and the artist will be there. The Friends of the Alaska State Museum will provide refreshments.

The museum hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, except holidays. General admission is \$3. Visitors 18 and under are admitted free of charge. An annual pass that allows unlimited visits to the Alaska State Museum and the Sheldon Jackson Museum in Sitka is available for \$15.

Assistance is available for visitors with special needs. Please contact Visitor Services at 465-2901 before the visit.