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Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: March 12, 2012

THE “HOURS” ARE NIGH

ASM Opens “An Alaskan Book of Hours,” Mixed-Media Exhibit by Margo Klass

JUNEAU – What do you get when you blend the structure of a popular illustrated devotional book from the late Middle Ages with the majesty of the Alaskan landscape? Fairbanks mixed-media artist Margo Klass’ new solo artist exhibit at the Alaska State Museum.

“An Alaskan Book of Hours” will enjoy a “soft opening” on March 23, with a formal opening reception two weeks later hosted by The Friends of the Alaska State Museum on First Friday, April 6 at the museum from 4:30 – 7 p.m. There is no charge for admission between 4 and 7 p.m. on First Fridays.

In her show, Klass presents a series of “box constructions” influenced by Alaska’s natural environment. These constructions contain compositions of found objects—old tools, discarded game pieces, twigs, rocks—that re-interpret the medieval “Book of Hours” in terms of the 49th State. Here, the hours of the day become reflections on the changing light and rhythms of the seasons.

Klass uses the openness of the museum’s exhibit space to create a chapel-like experience in which each piece, taken together and meditated upon separately, evokes the sensation of gazing upward into cathedral. Klass has exhibited her work throughout Alaska and at galleries in New York, Washington, DC and Maine. Her work appears in the permanent collections of the Anchorage Museum and University of Alaska Museum of the North, as well as at Denali Park and Preserve.

“An Alaskan Book of Hours” runs through April 28, 2012. Klass will be present for the opening reception of “An Alaskan Book of Hours” on April 6.

Winter hours at the museum are 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Regular discounted winter 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.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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www.museums.state.ak.us

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