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## Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: **March 18, 2010**

### **Sue Kraft paintings exhibition opens at State Museum**

Juneau residents will find much to recognize and reflect upon in an exhibition by local painter Sue Kraft opening this Friday, April 2, at the Alaska State Museum. The exhibit, titled "Familiar Places," will feature approximately 40 new oil and acrylic paintings, many focusing on local scenes. The work will be on view throughout the summer. An opening reception will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday sponsored by The Friends of the Alaska State Museum.

Born and raised in the Pacific Northwest, and a graduate of the University of Washington, Kraft has lived, worked and painted in Alaska for almost 40 years and has had her work included in numerous juried art shows as well as solo and group exhibitions. Her work is represented in the permanent collections at the Alaska State Museum, the Anchorage Museum, the Alaska State Art Bank, the Juneau-Douglas City Museum, the ARCO Collection, the Alaska State Ferry *Fairweather*, and many private collections.

Kraft moved from Anchorage to Juneau in 1990. Her cityscapes and landscapes reflect views of Juneau that capture the unique qualities of light cherished by local residents. She has a penchant for seeking out views that present remnants of Juneau's past history.

Writing about her work and about Juneau, Kraft says: "Having grown up in the Pacific Northwest I was predisposed, I expect, to the environment – the mountains, trees, water – and it is here that I feel most connected and enriched. And so, I am building my show about this place. The inspiration for just about all of the paintings is in or near Juneau. Some subjects I paint because I find them mysterious, others because they are too beautiful to ignore, some because of the sense of quiet they invoke, or for their natural power, or because they speak of another time, and others simply because the light of the moment has moved me. It's pretty much my personal composite of this place."

"If there is a common thread to the paintings, it is in the thoughts about time, be it the moment or as a continuum, where all things pass in whatever brief or extended period they are allotted."

The exhibition will be on view through October 23.

Through the first week of May, hours at the museum are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Discounted winter admission is \$3.

Beginning May 11, hours will be 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily except closed on holidays. Admission is \$5.

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](http://www.museums.state.ak.us)

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