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ARTIST PATRICK HENRY BROADENS HIS HORIZONS
AT OCEAN CITY CENTER FOR THE ARTS IN AUGUST SHOW

OCEAN CITY MD — July 20, 2015 — Artist Patrick Henry is well known for his evocative paintings of the landscape of his native Eastern Shore. In his upcoming one-man show at the Ocean City Center for the Arts, Henry departs from his visions of home to paint scenes of Charleston, San Francisco, New York City, Chicago and Washington, D.C.

The Patrick Henry show — entitled “Moments: In Color, Texture, Light and Geometry” — opens with a free public reception at the Arts Center during a special Saturday night event, August 1, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Henry will give a talk about his work on Wednesday, August 12 at 7 p.m. at the arts center, also free and open to the public.

The Art League of Ocean City is publishing an exhibition catalog to accompany Henry’s show that will be on sale for \$10.

“Patrick is a native son and artist, and people in the community look up to him for his accomplishments,” Rina Thaler, executive director of the Ocean City Center for the Arts, said. “His paintings bring to life the fabric of the area — the time, the place and the people. I love his dappled use of light and the painterly quality of his work.”

Henry has devoted six months in preparing for this show of 25 all-new works based on observations during his travels. He sought to bring into his paintings the “spirit of curiosity” that has been a driving force throughout his life in Worcester County.

Born in Sinepuxent, Henry, 63, attended Stephen Decatur High School before studying art education at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. He taught for several years, but “the passion of the creative process” made him move on to painting full time.

“I’m an artist through and through, and I have to listen to that,” he said. “All my life, I’ve had this voice that guides me. It’s a voice that bears down on me, and until I zone in on it and act upon it, it takes me on different paths.

“My spirit has always been one of curiosity, of continual learning,” Henry continued. “I could easily have let myself get boxed in to being a wildlife artist. (He worked as an artist for M.R.Ducks in the 1980s.) But as soon as I feel I’m being typecast, I flee from it.”

Henry’s inner voice inspired him to move beyond the Eastern Shore in finding inspiration for his new paintings.

“I took my lifelong photo album, and pulled out images that were touch points, that took me back to there,” he said.

“For me as an artist, I returned back to my childhood days, intrigued with the elements of design, and to see how, at this stage, I will do the interplay of color, light, texture and geometry. It’s a dance back and forth between those elements.”

Henry has not totally abandoned his visual love of his home state and included nine paintings of Ocean City, Deale Island and southern Maryland in his new work.

The Patrick Henry show will run until August 29 at the Ocean City Center for the Arts.

The Ocean City Center for the Arts at 502 94th Street is the home of the Art League of Ocean City, a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing the visual arts to the community through education, exhibits, scholarship, programs and community art projects.

Financial support comes primarily through membership dues from individuals and corporate sponsors. Funding for exhibits is also provided by the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore, the Worcester County Arts Council, Maryland State Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts, organizations dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where the arts thrive.

More information is available at 410-524-9433 or www.artleagueofoceancity.org.

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EDITORS: Two high-resolution files attached.

Patrick Henry will be exhibiting 25 new paintings at the Ocean City Center for the Arts in August with a special Saturday night opening on August 1.

“Pond Central Park” is one of Patrick Henry’s new paintings that will be on display at the Ocean City Center for the Arts in August.