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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Charles DuBack: Modern Master **Opens at the Keefe House Gallery at the Woodman**

September 17, 2015 (Dover, NH) – **Opening on Thursday, September 24, *Charles DuBack: Modern Master*** is the new art exhibition at the Keefe House Gallery at the Woodman. Located at 15 Summer Street, it is Dover’s newest contemporary art gallery, and the newest addition to the Woodman Museum campus. The exhibition will run from Thursday, September 24 through Sunday, November 15. There will be a reception, open to the public, from 5 – 7 p.m. on the 24th.

A painter and printmaker for over 50 years, Charles DuBack has, for the most part, shunned the “art star” spotlight that his early New York friend, Alex Katz, early on decided to pursue. As DuBack, 89, has said about his early career, “I never cared about showing my work, I just wanted to paint.” Now the octogenarian states that he feels he has done enough good, solid painting, and has progressed as an artist to the point where he would like to be recognized for his work.

Having known this artist’s work for over 15 years, Wes LaFountain -- director of the Woodman and curator of the exhibition -- is pleased to oblige. “I’ve studied Charlie’s career and looked at work from his post-WWII era in New York City to the most recent paintings from Maine, and his lifelong artistic journey is beautifully portrayed in successive episodes on canvas.” Stylistically -- through geometric motifs of the ‘60s, from which he learned to paint large; then through 1970s realism akin to Neil Welliver; to the ‘80s and ‘90s loosening up of brushstrokes and more emotional use of color -- he has set visual problems for himself as an artist, and solved them convincingly. His quest as an artist, in active dialogue with his muse, has pushed him to evolve.

Not quite a retrospective, this exhibition surveys in a couple dozen works the artist’s stylistic evolution, essentially from the 1950s through to the early 2000s. It’s a pretty, enjoyable, painterly ride -- not always immediately accessible, but always authentic. Every brushstroke counts.

As one art critic, New Brunswick connoisseur Edward Leger recently stated, “If there could be an American Matisse, it would be Charles DuBack.”

This exhibition is generously sponsored by **Measured Progress** of Dover. Measured Progress is a not-for-profit organization that provides the K-12 educational community nationwide with innovative and flexible assessment solutions. Locally, they support a number of educational and community organizations. This sponsorship covers several new educational components designed in collaboration with Dover Middle School and the Woodman Museum, in addition to this exhibition.



The Woodman Museum, founded in 1916, celebrates its 100th Anniversary in 2016. Its mission for the last 99 years as a nonprofit educational institution has been to collect, preserve, exhibit and interpret the history of the Dover and Seacoast region, the natural sciences, and the arts. More information can be found at www.woodmanmuseum.org.