Mar 5th, 12:00 AM - 12:00 AM

Symposium Program

Sue Taylor  
Portland State University

Nora Beck  
Lewis and Clark College

Prudence F. Roberts  
Portland Community College

Patricia A. Schechter  
Portland State University, schechp@pdx.edu

Namita Gupta Wiggers

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Acknowledgments

Helzer Art Gallery, Portland Community College, Rock Creek
Lewis & Clark College
Lori Bookstein Gallery, New York
Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education
Rosemarie Beck Foundation, New York

at Portland State University

College of the Arts
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Department of History
Educational Activities Speakers Board
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The Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies
Office of Academic Innovation
Portland Center for Public Humanities
School of Art + Design
School of Theater + Film

special thanks to

Dean Wm. Robert Bucker

Symposium

Lincoln Hall Studio Theater
5 March 2015
PROGRAM

10 a.m. to Noon - Genre and Medium in Beck
Moderator - Sue Taylor, Professor of Art History, PSU

“The Greenest Meadow of a Minuet”
Nora Beck
James W. Rogers Professor of Music, Lewis & Clark College

Drawing and Drama
Prudence F. Roberts
Curator, Helzer Art Gallery, PCC Rock Creek

Antigone, Beck, and a Lesbian New Yorker
Jamie P. Ross
Assistant Professor of Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies, PSU

A Painter and Her Poet: Rosemarie Beck and Marcia Nardi
Patricia A. Schechter
Professor of History, PSU

Noon – Exhibit tours in Broadway Lobby Gallery
History students Tabitha Hilweh and Jenna Barganski

1:30 - 3:30 p.m. - Literary Themes in Beck
Moderator - Patricia Schechter

Unmentionables: A Highly Unusual Grandmother
Doria A.P. Hughes
Archivist, Rosemarie Beck Foundation

Poetry by Marcia Nardi
read by MFA students Aaron Giesa, Ryan Mills, and Erin Perry
John Beer, Assistant Professor of English, PSU

Selections from Shakespeare, Sophocles, Yeats
read by Talon Bigelow, Michelle Kopper Seymour, and Lexie Quandt
Karin Magaldi, Professor of Theater, PSU

5 p.m. - Exhibit tours in Broadway Lobby Gallery

6 p.m. - Reception
Broadway Lobby Gallery
Portland State University String Quartet
directed by Professor Hamilton Cheifetz

7 p.m. - Keynote Address
Lincoln Hall, room 75

Rosemarie Beck’s Multiple Identities:
A Woman, Jew, and Artist in Post-War New York
Samantha Baskind
Professor of Art History, Cleveland State University
The Sarah Glasgow Cogan Endowed Lecture in Judaic Studies

Rosemarie Beck (1923-2003) was a versatile and highly accomplished artist as well as a trained violinist. She grew up in New York City and attended Oberlin College, where she graduated with a degree in Art History in 1946. Her prolific forty-year career invites an examination of the sexual politics of the post-war avant-garde, an exploration of the influence of music and literature on painting, and reflection on issues facing women in the arts.

Beck made her name as a painter in Manhattan during the 1950s, the heyday of the New York School, with which she was affiliated. She pursued an independent artistic vision, moving from non-objective to figurative painting when Abstract Expressionism was at the height of its acclaim. At mid-career, she adapted her painterly techniques to tapestry-like embroideries which often featured classical themes. As an artist, she was the primary wage-earner for her family, which included her husband, the writer Robert Phelps, and their son, Roger. This exhibit and symposium present Rosemarie Beck’s work to Pacific Northwest audiences for the first time.