

## “Spirit of the West” New works by Maura Allen and Ron Russon

**EVENT DATE/TIME** Jul 2, 2011 to Aug 3, 2011  
This event occurs daily, every 1 day(s).

### DESCRIPTION

#### • “Spirit of the West” •

New works by **Maura Allen** and **Ron Russon**

—Saturday, July 2nd, 2011 6 pm

Come celebrate the July Fourth weekend with Western-themed works by two of our finest local artists at Gallery MAR.

Utah-based Ron Russon and Maura Allen of Colorado help us spread the “Spirit of the West” in an exhibition of their latest paintings. The inspiration that our region brings is beautifully expressed on the canvas and panels of these two contemporary artists.

The dominant theme of Maura Allen’s work is the life and landscape of the American West. The mythology of the West— solitude, strength, discipline, individualism, pride and promise— provide a source of imagery and inspiration. To create her work, Allen draws on more than 20 years experience in black and white photography. Like a journalist, she photographs in order to capture moments and elements that portray current day life. Using the serigraph (silkscreen) printmaking process, Allen is able to stretch beyond the photographic media and work on a variety surfaces, layer images and incorporate color and create rich textures. Silhouette and high contrast imagery characteristic of serigraph printing gives Allen’s work a bold and simple appearance at first glance; yet, over time, the detail and complexity of each piece continue to be revealed.

Ron Russon was born and raised surrounded by the Wasatch Mountains, many farms, and acres of cultivated ground. Raised in a family of five boys in an agrarian area, work was taught and expected. As a youngster, Russon never took art too seriously, or considered it as a viable career. But when he attended Utah Valley Community College and took a basic drawing class, and something about it felt right. He was accepted into the Illustration Design program at Brigham Young University and accomplished an internship in New York City at Illustration House, studying under several prominent illustrators and artists.

Russon became a freelance illustrator and gained several clients, but he was soon drawn back to his rural roots of farms and wildlife. Listening to bluegrass or space-pop, Ron paints in oil employing a loose brush and pallet knife to varied scenes of the West. Through both abstraction and realism, his art reflects his relationship with nature and his communication with the outdoors.



### LOCATION

Gallery MAR  
580 Main Street  
Park City, UT