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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: September 18, 2018**

**CONTACT PERSON: EMILY PEAK, VISUAL ARTS COORDINATOR**

**SUBJECT: CHET GEISELMAN & ROBERT FRY AT THE KREMPP GALLERY**

**EXHIBIT DATES: OCTOBER 3<sup>rd</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**RECEPTION: OCTOBER 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – 5-7 PM**

The Krempp Gallery at the Jasper Arts Center is pleased to present the artwork of wood artists, Chet Geiselman of Muncie, IN and Robert Fry of Covington, KY.

Chet Geiselman is a sculptor who describes himself as ‘a creative problem solver, a collector and arranger of objects and information, a fabricator of visual forms, and a lifelong student of spiritual and human nature.’ He creates works that combine the familiar materials of wood and steel with recontextualized found objects. A deep regard for traditional craftsmanship and a love of Bauhaus design is present in his objects; these qualities are offset by the emphatic presence of narrative and associative content introduced by the found object.

Each of Geiselman’s works suggests a formal relationship to the space it inhabits and alludes to the potential functionality (past or present) of the objects that compose it; at the same time his works, in their juxtaposition of the inanimate and the strangely animate, the found and the handmade, imply an odd narrative quality reminiscent of the absurdist sculptures of surrealist artists like Marcel Duchamp, Man Ray, and Joseph Cornell. In his works, the interplay of form and content generates a tension that is meditative, awkward, humorous, playful, and ultimately open-ended.

Robert Fry has labored to create distinctive and quietly elegant sculptures that convey a subtle balance between contrasting forms. Working primarily in wood, Fry also incorporates other reusable natural materials such as rope and stone in addition to industrial materials that include paint, wire, and metal. In a simple and direct manner, he combines traditional woodworking and carving methods to arrive at an efficiency of form.

Fry states, “In my work, I try to get fundamental elements to communicate with an efficiency of form, being as direct as possible. The sculpture forms I create are simple, with elements added to create contrast and complexity, texture, color and line. I have been working on figurative and nonfigurative sculpture in wood, aluminum, clay, plaster, bronze and stone. Most of the work is large-scale and exhibited on the floor rather on a pedestal.”

Chet Geiselman holds a Bachelor of Science, Art from the University of Southern Indiana and a Master of Fine Arts, Metals from Southern Illinois University. Geiselman is currently the 3-D Studio Manager and Instructor of Art- 3D Foundations at Ball State University.

Robert Fry studied art with a focus on sculpture at Thomas More College and Northern Kentucky University in the early 1980s. Since then he has been a self-employed artist and fabricator, working on museum installations and private commissions.

Join both artists at the Jasper Arts Center for an opening reception at the Krempp Gallery on Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 5 to 7 pm. Each artist will give a brief gallery talk about themselves and their artwork. Enjoy an evening of art, food, cash bar, music and fun!

The Krempp Gallery, located in the Jasper Arts Center adjacent to the VUJ campus, is open to the public Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5 pm, until 7 pm on Thursdays, and Sunday from noon to 3 pm. School groups, clubs and students are welcome. Admission is free.

For more information, please call the Arts Center at 812-482-3070. The Jasper Arts Center is managed by Jasper Community Arts, a department of the City of Jasper. JCA is supported by the Friends of the Arts, Inc., the Indiana Arts Commission through its regional partner the Vanderburgh Community Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

**A DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF JASPER**

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