

Media Release

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## “Ruins” Art Show at QCC January 17

Worcester – The Quinsigamond Community College/ARTSWorcester Art Gallery’s winter exhibit opens on Tuesday, January 17, 2006 with **Mr. Robert Balogh’s** “Ruins.” The collection of 24 photographs will be on display in the QCC Administration Building Corridor Art Gallery through March 3, 2006. The public is invited to attend the Opening Night Gallery Talk and Reception starting at 5:30 p.m. in Conference Room 123A. There is never an admission fee, and regular viewing hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon.

Mr. Balogh began his experiments in photograph as a child. Although largely self-taught, Mr. Balogh attended the New England School of Photograph and has been influenced by the work of Diane Arbus and Michael Lesy. In his photography, Mr. Balogh captures things left behind by people, especially those things that are representations of humans, and places where people have been but are no longer. In his work, he strives to represent “our desire to hold on to our memories, and ourselves.”

“Our image of ourselves – posters, puppets, statues, scarecrows – speaks to our perceptions of ourselves, both as we are and as we hope to be,” he said.

Mr. Balogh’s work often includes the use of images of cemetery art, puppets founds in antique stores and performance spaces, scarecrows founds in Vermont barns,

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images from graffiti, the occasional doll from abandoned buildings and posters. Treated as “found objects,” these images are intensely representational and except for the occasional use of a filter, are not altered in anyway.

“I seem to instinctively seek out those places where people had been but were no longer. I came to love those things people left behind – evidence of past, private histories that were soon to be swept away.”

A past member of the Newburyport Art Association, Mr. Balogh has won a number of awards for his photographs and has exhibited in the old Grove Street Gallery as a member of the Worcester Arts Group. His work has also been exhibited at the Park Hill Gallery and The Gallery at the Sprinkler Factory in Worcester.

Mr. Balogh has worked as a commercial photographer in the Boston metro area, shooting catalogue works, sports teams, and doing public relations photography. His work has appeared in the *Boston Herald*, *NewtonTAB*, *Worcester Magazine* and other publications. Upon leaving the commercial photography business, he earned a bachelor’s degree from Worcester State College and a Master’s of Arts in English from the University of Connecticut. He now teaches English at Wachusett Regional High School.