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El Camino College Art Gallery to Present: *Tropical Planet*

The El Camino College Art Gallery will present *Tropical Planet*, featuring paintings, collage, drawing, and digital prints by ECC Professor Emeritus David Patterson and his wife Deborah Patterson, who was an adjunct faculty member in the digital area of the art department for a number of years. The exhibit runs through September 20.

In *Tropical Planet*, husband and wife David and Deborah Patterson inhabit an artistic atmosphere that radiates heat and energy and produces work of remarkable fertility, brilliance and vigor.

The digital works of Deborah Patterson emanate a rich appreciation for the natural world. She digitally manipulates her detailed photographic images of flowers, trees and geologic forms, restructuring them into landscapes of light and explosions of color. Each jewel-like piece exists as a sort of kaleidoscopic vision, offering the viewer a glimpse into the poetic under-layer of nature where lightness and darkness collide.

The collage works, paintings, and drawings by David Patterson abstractly map the territory and reveal the characters of a myth he is writing. The story, a myth of paradise set in Northeastern Africa at a time in ancient history, is peopled by Ava (Eve) and Adam and their mythic entourage. This land is represented in brilliantly colored abstractions where the artist combines painted patterning and highly energized and loose drawing with cutout shapes. In addition, David Patterson shows pastel drawings, figurative works and whimsical cabinets and chests that are a part of his daily life.

The El Camino College Art Gallery is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays and from noon to 8 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays. For more information, call curator Susanna Meiers at 310-660-3593, extension 3543. Admission to the El Camino College Art Gallery and gallery events is free. On-campus parking is \$2.

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