

For immediate release – April 1, 2019

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An Acre of Art – “70+: GERO-TRANSCENDENCE” is Rutland’s Largest Exhibit Ever

Rutland, Vermont – April 1, 2019: The opening reception for “70+: Gero-Transcendence,” featuring over 300 works of art by sixty-seven artists who are seventy years or older, curated by Bill Ramage, will be on Saturday, April 6, 2019 from 2:00 – 4:00 PM at 77ART’s exhibition space, 77 Gallery, 77 Grove Street, Rutland, VT.

There are well over three hundred works of art exhibited in a 7,000 square foot exhibition space at 77 Grove Street in Rutland. Ramage invites the public, saying, “We have built it, you should come.”

On both level one and level two of the exhibition space at 77ART, there will be free refreshments, wine, and live music by Gary Schmidt, Harry Drum, and Gene Childers on Saturday afternoon.

Curator Bill Ramage describes “70+” as “an exhibition of sixty-seven artists who are seventy years or older – what should be called *The Incredible Generation*. Collectively these artists represent about five thousand years of being part of, experiencing, and observing the Lebenswelt; it should be noted that between 1950 to 1975, this generation had an incredible impact on the life-world.”

Bill is 76 years old and spends a good deal of time musing about the possibility or the improbability that empathy could ever replace power and wealth as our survival strategy saying that “it seems to work well for dogs.” Ramage took these musings and invited artists of the gero-transcendental age, realizing that “the most significant thing we brought to the table of a transforming culture was the gift of empathy. In spite of all the insane trials and disastrous tribulations of those twenty-five years (1950-1975), our one true and lasting legacy are the many rewards of the new and inclusive lexicon of cultural empathy.”

This Saturday, April 6, 2019 is also International Slow Art Day. Slow Art Day is the global event with a simple mission: “help more people discover for themselves the joy of looking at and loving art.” 77ART will facilitate conversations about discovering art slowly for anyone participating in the reception. The goal is to focus on the art and the art of seeing, especially when one can easily get overwhelmed by over an acre of art.

The exhibition, “70+: Gero-Transcendence,” will be on view at 77ART from Thursday, April 4, 2019 through Friday, May 17, 2019. For more information, please stop by the gallery, visit our Facebook page, or email the curator at William.Ramage@castleton.edu. Free and open to the public.

*77 Gallery is the exhibition space of 77ART: Rutland Vermont Art Center, with two levels of exhibition space. 77 Gallery is located at 77 Grove Street (former CVPS building) in Rutland, VT. **Public Hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** 77 Gallery is physically accessible to visitors who use wheelchairs or other mobility aids, and those who prefer not to use stairs, by the rear entrance. We invite you to contact us to inquire about reserving 77 Gallery for your next event. Questions regarding reservations or bookings may be addressed to Bianca at the77gallery@gmail.com, or by visiting our website at 77art.org, or messaging our Facebook page at [facebook.com/the77gallery/](https://www.facebook.com/the77gallery/), or by messaging our Instagram or Twitter accounts [@the77gallery](https://www.instagram.com/the77gallery).*

Press Image attached, "70+," photo by Richard D. Weis.

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