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Visiting Artist Books Tintype Portrait Sessions in Cedar Falls

January 28, 2020: The Hearst Center, Cedar Falls Community Main Street and The Black Hawk Hotel are joining together to host a visiting artist in Cedar Falls February 6-8. Margaret Muza, a tintype portrait photographer based in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is currently booking portrait sessions to be held in the historic lobby of The Black Hawk Hotel in Cedar Falls.

Muza, who was recently featured on PBS News Hour, uses a method of photography first popularized in the mid-1800s called a tintype. The process begins with a metal plate (Muza prefers aluminum), rather than a film negative. The plate is treated through a wet chemical process to create a light-sensitive surface. When exposed to light through Muza's antique 8 x 10 box camera, the sitter's image is permanently captured on the plate; a single image that is unique and non-reproducible. "I just got really curious about what made a photograph look the way that they used to. There's something a little bit haunting about them...the things that these old lenses capture is something that our iPhones just can't," explains Muza, who was inspired to first learn the tintype technique after becoming interested in Civil War-era portraiture.

A 'Meet and Greet' event is planned for February 6 from 6-8 PM at Bar Winslow. The event is free and open to the public, and will include a short demonstration of the tintype process by the artist. Light refreshments will be served. For anyone interested in booking a portrait session with Muza, slots can be reserved through a link at www.thehearst.org or at the artist's website. A limited number of discount vouchers for portrait sessions will be available on a first-come first-served basis at the Meet and Greet event!

For more information about Margaret Muza, please visit www.margaretmuza.com. For more information about the event, please contact Heather Skeens, Cedar Falls Cultural Programs Supervisor, at heather.skeens@cedarfalls.com or 319.268.5550.

