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Contact: J. Kiku Langford, Exhibition Coordinator, 603-448-3117

AVA Gallery and Art Center

Toby Bartles

On the Square

Rebecca Lawrence Gallery Entry

January 8 – February 6, 2010

Opening Reception: Friday, January 8, 5-7pm

Artist's Talk: Tuesday, January 19, 7pm

An exhibition of oil paintings by Toby Bartles will be on view in AVA Gallery and Art Center's Rebecca Lawrence Gallery Entry from January 8-February 6, 2010. A reception, free and open to the public, will take place on Friday, January 8, from 5 to 7pm.

Toby Bartles, of Vershire, VT, studied at the New York Studio School of Drawing, Painting and Sculpture and at the International School of Drawing Painting and Sculpture in Umbria, Italy. A graduate of Kimball Union Academy (KUA) in Meriden, NH, Bartles had a solo exhibition there in 2004 and was on the faculty as an art teacher from 2006-07. Bartles has had a number of other exhibitions and commissions in the Upper Valley and has been included in several exhibitions at AVA Gallery and Art Center, including a solo exhibition in 2003.

For his exhibition at AVA, *On the Square*, Bartles will be showing oil paintings from his recent explorations into invented imagery, all painted on square canvasses. With a strong

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11 Bank Street, Lebanon, NH 03766 tel. 603.448.3117 e-mail kiku@avagallery.org www.avagallery.org

background in plein-air landscape painting from direct observation, Bartles' redirected focus on working from imagination and memory has provided a greater sense of spontaneity and freedom in the creation of his work. About his exhibition, Bartles says: "these paintings reflect my ongoing effort to engage and respond to the environment around me while attaining a heightened sensibility concerning abstraction and color rooted in form."

On Tuesday, January 19, 2010 at 7pm, Bartles will give a talk about his exhibition. The talk is free and open to the public.

AVA Gallery and Art Center/Alliance for the Visual Arts is a non-profit organization representing Vermont and New Hampshire artists. Located at 11 Bank Street right off Colburn Park in Lebanon, NH, the gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11AM to 5PM and by appointment; closed on Sundays and Mondays.

Admission is free, and the gallery is accessible to the handicapped.



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