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Fresh viewpoint, new venue for this month's Third Friday

By Lauren Wells
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Third Friday this month has a decidedly local focus.

Kansas City inspires artist Maria Calderon's new show, while work by the late Ernst Ulmer reveals his love of Kansas history and the Midwestern landscape. Interactive video installations by Wichita-based art collective Hack.Art.Lab. allow viewers to participate in making art.

And a new Westport gallery, P&M Artworks, will hold its first show, "Beasts and Beauties."

Local culture is infused with Calderon's fresh perspective in her exhibit, "Kansa Citta Pueblita," opening Friday at the Charlotte Street Foundation's Urban Culture Project Space. The artist's local roots and Peruvian heritage receive equal



attention in new work featuring prominent Kansas City landmarks and community members with a distinct South American influence.

Local iconography is interwoven with Peruvian imagery and the colors and patterns of traditional Peruvian textiles to emphasize comparison between the

local community and what Calderon refers to as an “ideological primitive or native society.”

The opening begins with remarks by the artist at 6 p.m. and will conclude with traditional Andean music at 9 p.m. by the artist’s father and the Andean Express.

“Kansa Citta Pueblita” opens from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday at the Urban Culture Project Space, 21 E. 12th St. For more information, 816-994-7731 or www.charlottestreet.org.



•Also on the agenda this Friday for the Urban Culture Project is “You Complete Me,” an interactive audio and video installation by Hack.Art.Lab at the Paragraph Gallery from 6 to 9 p.m. Guests can expect to explore their role as a viewer through the collective’s interactive programs. Those interested in learning more about Hack.Art.Lab’s technology are invited to attend a workshop at the Paragraph Gallery from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday.

“You Complete Me” opens from 6 to 9 p.m. at Paragraph Gallery, 23 E. 12th St. For more information, 816-994-7731 or www.charlottestreet.org.

•Drawings and paintings by Ernst Ulmer of Bonner Springs, who died in 2009 after a 50-year career as an artist and arts advocate, can be seen at the Kansas City Club, 918 Baltimore St., from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Friday. A portion of sales from the show will go toward the Ernst Ulmer Scholarship Fund. For more information, call 913-362-6632.

New Westport venue

P&M Artworks, a venture organized by local couple Michael Pronko and Patricia Glenn in space provided by the Frame Gallery, 1415 Westport Road, will present its first show Friday. “Beasts and Beauties” will feature work by established Kansas City artist Allan Winkler and South African ceramicist Tania Babb.

Pronko and Glenn hope their gallery will allow Kansas Citians to “collect quality art at a price they can afford,” Glenn says. Consumers can expect to find pieces

that “have a look about them that is somewhat primitive with a certain naivete that we find very appealing,” she adds.

P&M will present a new show every six months. Hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and noon-5 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 816-756-3341 or go to www.pm-artworks.com.