

Changing Lenses Invites Viewers to Explore Transformation, Perception, and Creative Courage

Steamboat Springs winter sports legend and Olympic gold medalist **Deb Armstrong** presents *Changing Lenses*, a new exhibition at **The Depot Art Center** bridging athletic vision and artistic evolution. The show invites audiences to reflect on how perception shifts — in art, in life, and over time.

Presented as the Winter Olympics unfold, the exhibition also celebrates Steamboat Springs' deep Olympic athlete tradition, connecting Armstrong's legacy on the world stage with a new chapter of creative exploration at home.

Best known for winning the women's giant slalom gold medal at the 1984 Winter Olympics, Armstrong has redirected her lifelong pursuit of excellence on snow into a deeply personal journey as a printmaker.

“What changes when you change lenses?” Armstrong asks. *Changing Lenses* traces her growth from tentative beginnings to expressive confidence, revealing both struggle and discovery as the work moves through time.

The exhibition connects directly to skiing, where changing lenses is a literal tool for clarity. The work shows a progression in Armstrong's technical and artistic development as a printmaker, shaped in part by her mentorship with **Sue Oehme of Oehme Graphics**, whose guidance helped her channel tenacity and creative instinct into a new form of expression.

“I craved a new form of challenge, bringing the mountains to me,” Armstrong says. “These mountains sometimes loom over us, awe-inspiring, or are dwarfed by the sky and northern lights, reaching toward unpredictable horizons. I was challenged to visualize, draw, interpret, and construct in entirely new ways.”

The result is a collection that resonates with anyone who has stepped beyond their comfort zone to begin something new.

Changing Lenses opens **February 6 at 5:00 PM** at **The Depot Art Center** with an artist reception and a live-stream of the Winter Olympic Opening Ceremony.