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For Immediate Release (Denver)

Date: January 11, 2022

Clark Richert: *Z-Space*

January 20 – February 19, 2022

Closing Reception for the public, February 19, 5-8pm

RULE Gallery, 808 Santa Fe Drive, Denver, CO

(Denver, CO) In light of the tremendous outpouring of sorrow and support following Clark Richert's death at the end of December, RULE Gallery has scheduled a return of the artist's recent solo show, *Z-Space*, from their Marfa, Texas location back to the home gallery in Denver, Colorado for public viewing from January 20 to February 19, 2022. Instead of the traditional grand opening, RULE has planned a closing reception for the public on Saturday, February 19, from 5-8 pm.

Denver *Z-Space* features additional paintings, historical drawings, and prints intended to expand the viewer's understanding of the artists' many avenues in studying and reworking the Periodic Table as well as other explorations of the universe.

Throughout his long and distinguished career, Clark Richert celebrated the underlying beauty of the universe, exploring big ideas about geometry, science and life through art. His latest exhibition, *Z-Space*, continues this practice, using Richert's personal theory of the structure of space along with fundamentals of crystalline form to reinterpret the venerated Periodic Table of Elements in a three-dimensional form. Expanding on the familiar idea that space is infinite, Richert pushes it to new levels, considering ways space can be filled, both structurally and aesthetically. In doing so, he reveals an evocative correlation between the way a Body-Centered Cubic (bcc) lattice grows, and deepens an understanding of how chemists and other scientists organize and group the basic elements of the universe.

Comprised of foundational drawings Richert made when first exploring these ideas, along with models, sculptures, and video that flesh out and clarify his concepts, the exhibition centers on paintings and prints where he brings these ideas to life, from seemingly simple works that illustrate the beauty of parallel lines to rich and complex paintings that provide 3D renderings of a reimagined Periodic Table. Richert brings together art and science in unexpected ways, delighting viewers with new takes on ideas as old as those espoused by Pythagoras in the 6th century B.C.E. and giving them vitality through the context of contemporary art.

Clark Richert (1941-2021) was born in Wichita, KS. He earned his BFA from the University of Kansas in 1963 and his MFA from the University of Colorado in 1972. He is one of four founding members of Drop City, (Trinidad, CO, 1965), which is considered the first counterculture artist's community in the US. Over the past 50 years, Richert has exhibited widely in galleries and intuitions across the world, including the Walker Art Center of Minneapolis; The Denver Art Museum; Museum of Contemporary Art, Denver; the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, AZ; The Kirkland Museum, Denver; The Museum of Modern Art, Vienna Austria; Yellowstone Art Center, Billings MT; The Biennial of the Americas, Denver; Berkley Art Museum, CA; RedLine Contemporary Art Center, Denver; the Cranbrook Art Museum, MI; Museum of Friends, Walsenburg, CO, among many others. In 2019, Richert was given a dual career retrospective, staged at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Denver and the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art. Richert recently unveiled two public artworks; *Quadrivium*, a fourteen-foot, lighted aluminum triacontahedron structure in 2020, and *Four Color Intertwine*, both in Denver. In addition to public and corporate commissions, his work can be found in the collections of the Smithsonian Museum, Nelson-Atkins Museum, Wichita Art Museum, Denver Art Museum, Kirkland Museum, University of Colorado, Boulder, Amoco, Container Corporation of America as well as many prominent private collections.

RULE Gallery, founded in 1991, has locations in Denver, CO and Marfa, TX. RULE represents emerging and mid-career contemporary artists and artist estates, with a focus on fostering investigative art practices while developing artists' long-term careers. Outside their robust in-house exhibition schedule, RULE coordinates programming in prominent institutions and non-traditional settings, expanding community engagement with the work. In addition, the gallery actively endeavors to bring greater recognition of the region's historic art movements to a broader audience.