

For Immediate Release

October 9, 2013

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## Betty Davenport Ford Exhibit to Open at Art Fiesta

The 2013 Padua Hills Art Fiesta will feature *Betty Davenport Ford: Capturing the Animal Spirit*, an exhibit of sculpture presented by the Claremont Museum of Art. One of Claremont's most prolific sculptors, Betty Davenport Ford is well known for her unique style and honest craftsmanship. Working in clay and bronze for over sixty years, she simplifies form to abstract the natural essence of the wild creatures she depicts.



### **Sunday, November 3 at the Padua Hills Art Fiesta**

Padua Hills Theatre, 4467 Padua Ave., Claremont, 11am to 4pm. Art Fiesta tickets are \$8 for adults, \$6 for CMA, RSABG and SAMFAC members. Children under 18 are free.

### **November 10 – March 30, 2014 at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden**

1500 N. College Ave., Claremont. Exhibit is open Friday-Sunday 10am-4pm. Garden admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors and students, \$4 for children and free for CMA and RSABG members.

### **May – June, 2014 at Sam and Alfreda Maloof Foundation for Arts and Crafts**

As part of the *Sculpture in the Garden* event.

This exhibit produced by the Claremont Museum of Art is cosponsored by Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens and the Sam and Alfreda Maloof Foundation for Arts and Crafts.

### **THE ARTIST**

During Ford's early years she discovered the beauty of the animal form, a fascination that thematically reoccurred in her sculptures throughout her professional career. It was through the study of the form and anatomy of these creatures that Ford gained the ability to capture not only the likeness of her animal subjects, but their essence as well.

A professional sculptor, teacher and author, Betty Davenport Ford was born in Upland in 1924. She received her BA degree from Scripps College and her MFA from Cranbrook Academy in Michigan in 1950. Her award winning work has been exhibited throughout the country and she has taught at Scripps, Pasadena City College and throughout California for the Visual Arts Program. She created numerous public works of art including the large tiger of Chaffey High School in Ontario and several fountains for the Pomona Mall.

*Photo caption: Betty Davenport Ford with Wild Goat, 1956*

*Additional photos are available upon request. Interviews with Betty Davenport Ford can be arranged.*