Grand Canyon art to be showcased

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Last summer, Liz Roth spent countless hours in a single spot on the south rim of the Grand Canyon.

This week, the work she did during that time will be on display at an Oklahoma State University art gallery.

Roth, an OSU art professor, spent a summer as an artist-in-residence at Grand Canyon National Park. During that time, she spent five hours per day for a weekend-and-a-half sitting at Powell Point, a place on the canyon’s south rim, making drawings of the canyon.

Roth kept a journal, made charts and painted smaller pictures to help her. It took a while to figure out how to draw the canyon, she said.

“It turns out it’s large,” she said.

Roth’s work is a part of an upcoming exhibit at OSU’s Gardiner Art Gallery in the Bartlett Center for the Visual Arts. The exhibition features recent work by 18 current and former art department faculty and staff members; said Shawn Yuan, the gallery’s director.

The exhibition covers a wide range of artistic media, including sculpture, jewelry, painting, photos, prints and furniture. Only a few of the pieces in the exhibition have been shown in public before, Yuan said.

Having an exhibition that focuses on faculty work is an important project for the department, Yuan said. It allows students the chance to see work done by the professors who try to inspire them in the classroom, he said.

“I think this is a great opportunity for students and the community to learn about what the faculty members are doing,” he said.

Roth’s contribution to the exhibition will include a large drawing she made during her time at Grand Canyon National Park, as well as a number of smaller working drawings she made during that time. The inclusion of the smaller drawings allows the viewer to get a better idea of the process she used to create the larger work, she said.

The exhibit will include an opening reception at 5 p.m. Thursday. The exhibit will also include recent publications by art history faculty members who teach in the Department of Art.

The OSU Art Department’s faculty art exhibition will be on display from Monday until Oct. 7. The Gardiner Art Gallery is located on the first floor of the Bartlett Center for the Visual Arts near the corner of South Knoblock Street and Morrill Avenue. The gallery is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. Admission is free.