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**KRCB-TV Premieres the Documentary "Smitten"**  
*the life and art collections of Rene di Rosa*

**Santa Rosa, Calif. (February 22, 2006)** -- PBS station *KRCB* has teamed up with independent film producer Nancy Kelly to produce and present "Smitten", an original documentary about the life and art collections of Rene di Rosa. The Napa-based di Rosa is a well-known collector whose passion for art and artists is a driving force behind the Bay Area art scene. "Smitten" premieres 7 pm, Tuesday, March 7 on *KRCB-TV* (broadcast and cable channel 22, Dish 22 or 8233, and Direct 22) with a repeat viewing Sunday, March 12 at 6:30 pm. The Corporation for Public Broadcasting through the Independent Television Service provided funding for the project.



*KRCB-TV* Program Director Stan Marvin has been involved with the documentary since its inception in 2004. "I loved the project from the beginning," says Marvin. "It's Northern California; it's art; it's Rene di Rosa. Some powerful pieces of art from Rene's collection are in the film."

di Rosa has sought out unknown or emerging artists since the 1960s, adding their work to his ever-growing collection. His superb artistic instincts have helped establish many well-known figures in the art world including Dave Best, Mildred Howard and Paul Kos. "Art is a reality dream that carries the viewer into an expanded world created jointly by the artist and the beholder," said di Rosa.

Begun as a private art collection, the di Rosa Preserve ([www.dirosapreserve.org](http://www.dirosapreserve.org)) was opened to the public in 1997. With more than 2,200 works of art by more than 900 artists, the Preserve is a non-profit cultural and environmental resource that acquires, exhibits and preserves the art of the greater San Francisco Bay Area. It is considered the largest and most notable collection of contemporary Northern California art available anywhere, and is one of the major regional art collections in the country.

The di Rosa Preserve is a portion of the original 460 acres purchased by Rene di Rosa in 1960. Entirely surrounded by vineyards and studded with 150-year-old olive trees, the Preserve's 217 acres feature three art galleries, an outdoor sculpture meadow and a 35-acre lake set in the beautiful Carneros wine region at the southern edge of the Napa and Sonoma Valleys. Rich in flora and fauna, the open spaces remain protected by the Napa County Land Trust and are home to Canada Geese, Blue Herons, Snowy Egrets, peacocks and more.

Rene di Rosa was born in Boston and is a graduate of Yale University. While living in San Francisco as a reporter for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, he sought a closer connection to rural values. This search brought him to Carneros where he planted Winery Lake Vineyard.

Famous wine grapes and a flair for promotion allowed him to support his interest in Bay Area art.

*KRCB-TV* and *FM 91* ([www.krcb.org](http://www.krcb.org)) is the PBS and NPR station serving the North and East Bay areas of the San Francisco Bay region. It provides educational, informational and cultural telecommunication services in partnership with the community by broadcasting the best of noncommercial programming available from national and international sources as well as its own productions. Working with non-profit and government organizations, the station expands the impact of programming by initiating community dialog on important issues, thus encouraging the civic engagement of all citizens. *KRCB-TV* earned a National Telly Award for its "Natural Heroes" series while a Special Merit Award from the National Federation of Community Broadcasters was garnered by *KRCB-FM* for its "Voice of Youth" program.

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*This release is available in MS Word upon request.*

*High resolution versions of the embedded graphics and a limited number of review copies of the documentary (CD) are also available.*