

The Salida Council for the Arts (SCFTA) invites the public to attend the monthly Creative Mixer on Thursday, January 10 from 5:30-7:00 pm featuring artist Matt Kroschel and musician Mohan Ramprasad in the Salida SteamPlant Paquette Gallery.

Held every second Thursday, the Creative Mixer is a free monthly public gathering of those interested in knowing more about the local arts scene in a casual social setting. Anyone with information to share about upcoming creative and art-related events is encouraged to give a brief announcement. Attendees are welcomed to introduce themselves and may find new friends and collaborators at the "Mixer." Free hors' d'oeuvres, a cash bar, beautiful artwork, great conversation, and music are always in abundance.

Artist Matt Kroschel grew up in Chaffee County before heading out into the world working in television news as a reporter. Matt currently covers Colorado's High Country and Western Slope for KCNC CBS4 in Denver.

He lives in rural Grand County on a hobby farm that is home to rescue dogs, cats, chickens and ducks.

Matt began his painting career on a whim in the summer of 2018. With zero formal art training or schooling, he breaks rules and pushes the envelope. Every piece is an original and unique. His style has grown into a well-recognized colorful mix of wild and farm creatures. His love of the natural world goes back to working as a photographer for several publications including the Mountain Mail before and during college. He began his artistic career on the stage of the SteamPlant before the renovations, when pigeons still called the big event center home and the floors were partially dirt.

Matt and his partner Chris are active in the local community. They enjoy soaking at Mt. Princeton and sipping adult beverages at Elevation Brewery when they are back in the area to visit.

Musician Mohan Ramprasad is a creator, and knows that love is the ultimate creative force in this dimension. His worldly duties include writing, recording and performing music, raising his son to be a good human being, painting the insides and outsides of residential and business structures, and instructing others in the phenomenon of self-directed neuroplasticity. Mohan is at his best when he is moving his body in an active and/or intentional way, existing out-of-doors in the mountains, forest or desert, and in learning situations. He is shy, yet thrives on human connections, so catch him, if you can, and say hello.