

SANTA BARBARA CONTEMPORARY ARTS FORUM

CONTACT: ELIZABETH LOVERO

653 Paseo Nuevo Santa Barbara, California 93101

T 805.966.5373 F 805.962.1421

elovero@sbcraf.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Exhibition Dates: September 2-October 29, 2006

Opening Reception: Saturday September 2, 2006 6-8PM

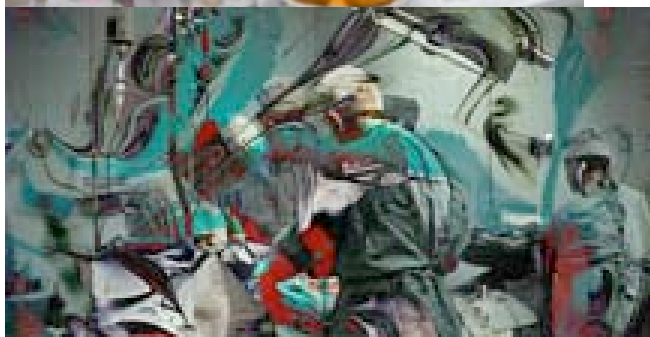
Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum presents three exhibitions that explore creative expression and appreciation in and beyond our community as part of Off-Axis, a month-long celebration of contemporary art



Salon: Franco Mondini Ruiz: Painting Place

Franco Mondini-Ruiz's *Painting Place* offers audiences the unique opportunity to observe the progression of an artist's exhibition and participate in its creation. During the 8-week exhibition, the artist will take residence in Santa Barbara, using the Norton Gallery as his painting studio. Beginning with an installation of dozens of empty canvases, Mondini-Ruiz will invite gallery patrons and local residents to be his assistants—organizing supplies, arranging materials, painting and selling his amusing and beautiful canvases to passersby. A sly reference to Grace Metalious' 1956 novel *Peyton Place* (later to become a popular soap opera and feature film), Mondini-Ruiz's installation will explore the lifestyle and culture of the idyllic, small town setting of Santa Barbara.

This is the second exhibition in the series of artist projects entitled *Salon*. Begun in April 2006, *Salon* transforms the CAF Norton Gallery into a moveable feast of programs, interventions, and opportunities for public engagement. Artists are invited to create participatory work that blurs the boundaries between gallery, visitor, and artist. CAF has asked artists to address the tradition, begun in the living rooms of the 18th Century French women, to employ the interaction of a diverse group of literary, artistic and cultural figures to foster an open, transitory, and discursive space.



Wayne McCall: The Fragility of Expertise

SANTA BARBARA CONTEMPORARY ARTS FORUM

Wayne McCall's photographs depict what Hal Foster calls "trauma culture"—surgical tools, organs, and equipment—bathed in swirls of psychedelic color. Hallucinatory, foreboding, and fresh, McCall's surreal scenes evoke an array of references ranging from the expressionistic films of Fritz Lang, Timothy Leary's psychedelic inspired writings, and the Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles' recent *Ecstasy: In and About Altered States* exhibition.

McCall has shown extensively in Southern California and has had recent shows at Reynolds Art Gallery, Channing Peake Gallery, the Santa Barbara Jewish Community Center and Elverhoj Museum.



Bloom Projects: Tanner Goldbeck and Joe Shea

Marking the first collaborative exhibition in the Bloom Project series, Joe Shea and Tanner Goldbeck will present a site-specific mural that fuses the iconography of each artist into an uncanny blend of imagery and text. Influenced by animation, graffiti, hot-rod, and skateboard culture, Shea and Goldbeck have collapse the boundaries between high and low art practices . Both artists have shown extensively in California and

Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum non-profit, non-collecting alternative art space dedicated to the exhibition, education, and cultivation of the arts of our time. Celebrating its 30th Anniversary in September 2006, CAF is the premier venue for contemporary art between Los Angeles and San Francisco, presenting 15-18 exhibitions annually. These exhibitions reflect our mission to sustain and encourage contemporary art and artists ensuring that creative expression and appreciation flourishes in and beyond our community.

Images available upon request. For more information contact Elizabeth Lovero, at 805.966.5373 ext 101 or go online to www.sbcaf.org.

Franco Mondini-Ruiz
Installation Image, 2006
Photo: Joshua White

The Fragility of Expertise #1, 2005
Digital Print
Dimensions variable
Courtesy the Artist

Joe Shea, Tanner Goldbeck and Friends, 2005
Installation Image from Reds, Santa Barbara
Courtesy the Artists