



SANTA BARBARA
CONTEMPORARY ARTS FORUM

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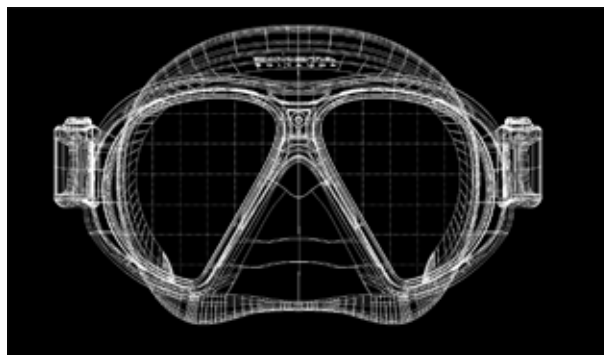
Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum presents *The Bellwether Effect: At the Forefront of Design and Bloom Projects* artist Blaise Drummond, *The Best I Can Do*

Exhibition Dates: May 31 - August 10, 2008

Opening Reception: Saturday, May 31, 2008, 6-8 PM



Courtesy Kim Yasuda



Courtesy Lifestyle Design

SANTA BARBARA, CA.—*Discover the world of Santa Barbara Design!* The Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum (CAF) is pleased to announce the opening of its first ever call for designers exhibition, *The Bellwether Effect: At the Forefront of Design*, opening May 31, 2008 from 6-8PM.

This exhibition will feature an array of imaginative designs created in our community while also highlighting the impact of design on our material and visual culture. While Santa Barbara has long since been regarded as a forerunner in architecture's sustainability movement, CAF exposes the community to Santa Barbara's presence as a burgeoning design hub. Ranging from art projects, product design to architecture, the exhibition explores the diversity of design solutions and creative projects occurring within our trademark Spanish-Moorish landscape. As the word "bellwether" connotes the existence or direction of a trend, the 6 entrants featured in this dynamic group shed light on the future of great design in our community and beyond.

CAF is proud to present:

AB Design Studio, Inc.

LifeStyle Design

Roesling Nakamura Terada Architects

Studio XYZ-dna

Studio 1030 Architects/Craig Burdick+Hanne Bølling

The Container Project: UCSB, Kim Yasuda



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Also on view:

Bloom Projects: Blaise Drummond, *The Best I Can Do*



The Best I Can Do, 2006
Installation
Dimensions variable
Courtesy the Artist

At CAF, artist Blaise Drummond will occupy the Bloom Projects and Glass Box gallery spaces with an installation composed of cardboard packaging and painted panels. Using the strategy of collage to evoke memory, each panel comprises words that create meandering sentences as in a dream or stream of consciousness. Illustrations of natural history are also present. Drummond's works, whether seen as a series or in isolation, explore the tenuous relationship between nature and culture. Often depicting icons of modernity amid natural surroundings, the artist creates works that are arguably sterile, yet not at all devoid of beauty. Coupling urban idealism, with a desire to "return to nature," Drummond's installation in Santa Barbara is especially affecting as he highlights the tension between natural beauty and man-made tourist attractions.

Drummond (b.1967, Liverpool; lives/works County Longford, Ireland) graduated from the National College of Art and Design, Dublin in 1994 and received an M.A. in Fine Art Painting at the Chelsea College of Art in London. Museum exhibitions include the Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, the Musée de l'Abbaye Sainte-Croix, Les Sables d'Olonne, Musée des Beaux-Arts de Nantes, and Stedelijk Museum, Aalst. Drummond has exhibited with Mary Goldman Gallery, Los Angeles, Rubicon Gallery, Dublin, Galerie Loevenbruck, Paris, and Aliceday, Brussels. The artist was selected three times for the John Moores exhibitions – the Biennial survey of British painting at the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool.

CAF is a non-profit, non-collecting alternative art space dedicated to the exhibition, education, and cultivation of the arts of our time. Celebrating its 31st Anniversary in September 2007, CAF is the premier venue for contemporary art between Los Angeles and San Francisco, presenting 15-18 exhibitions annually. **For more information contact Lauren Mermel, Communications Coordinator at 805.966.5373 ext. 104, lmermel@sbcaf.org, or go online to www.sbcaf.org.**