



SANTA BARBARA  
CONTEMPORARY ARTS FORUM

**CONTACT: LAUREN MERMEL**

653 Paseo Nuevo, Santa Barbara, California, 93101  
T 805.966.5373 ext 104 F 805.962.1421  
[lmermel@sbcraf.org](mailto:lmermel@sbcraf.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

The Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum (CAF) announces an international line-up of contemporary artists featured in the group exhibition, *An Expanded Field of Possibilities*. CAF will also exhibit new work in our **Bloom Projects** by LA-based artist Jennifer Nocon!

Exhibition Dates: February 28, 2009 – May 24, 2009  
Opening Reception: Saturday, February 28, 2009, 6-9 PM



**Nicole Cherubini**  
*Hydria with a Lethykos*, 2008  
6 x 3 x 4.5 feet  
Courtesy the artist

**SANTA BARBARA, Calif.**—*Material Gains*. This February CAF will highlight ceramics in contemporary art, with a groundbreaking exhibition featuring 11 internationally acclaimed artists. In the book *20th Century Ceramics*, Edmund de Waal described artists' use of clay in the last hundred years as "a field of possibilities." In the last century, artists ranging from Henri Matisse and Isami Noguchi to contemporary artists like Judy Chicago and Jeff Koons used ceramics in their artistic practices. Now, in the 21st century, artists have all but eliminated the traditional boundaries between high art versus craft or fine versus decorative arts in creating *An Expanded Field of Possibilities*, the title of this exhibition.

This exhibition in Santa Barbara continues the avant-garde legacy of West-Coast artists in particular who embrace innovation and creativity with this medium, exploring its relationship to the feminine domain, beauty and ornament, as well as notions of taste, luxury, and decadence. Featured artists include: Amy Bessone, Los Angeles, CA; Nicole Cherubini, Brooklyn, NY; Mari Eastman, Los Angeles, CA; Jessica Jackson-Hutchins, Portland, OR; Klara Kristalova, Stockholm, Sweden; Franco Mondini-Ruiz, San Antonio, TX; Kristen Morgin, Long Beach, CA; William J. O'Brien, Chicago, IL; Eduardo Sarabia, Berlin, Germany, Guadalajara, Mexico, Los Angeles, CA; Anna Sew Hoy, Los Angeles, CA; and Stephanie Wagner, Austin, TX.

**Bloom Projects:** Jennifer Nocon, *Gambusia Affinis Santa Barbara*

At CAF, Jennifer Nocon will occupy the **Bloom Projects** and Glass Box gallery space with a newly commissioned, site-specific installation. Nocon is known for creating sculptural environments using hand-dyed, wool felt inspired by naturally occurring patterns. The wool felt sculptures form open, intuitive patterns that have a visual language all their own. Nocon's sculptures and installations celebrate the power of the imagination, the diversity of nature, and explore the realm into where these forces meet.



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**Jennifer Nocon**

*Lady Stardust*, 2007

Hand dyed wool felt

Dimensions variable

Courtesy the artist and Tracy Williams Ltd.

Nocon (lives/works in Los Angeles, CA) received her MFA from University of Southern California in 2003. Since that time Nocon has participated in a number of group exhibitions nationally and abroad, including: *Darling, take Fountain*, curated by Konstantin Kakanias at Kalfayan Galleries, Athens, Greece, 2007; *I Don't Do Nature* at 1301PE, Los Angeles, CA, 2007, and Blum & Poe, Los Angeles, CA, 2008; . Nocon is represented by Tracy Williams Ltd, New York, where in 2007 she held her first solo exhibition entitled, *Elective Affinities*.

The Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum (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 33rd anniversary in 2008, CAF is the premier venue for contemporary art between Los Angeles and San Francisco. **Images available upon request. For more information contact Lauren Mermel, at 805.966.5373 ext 104 or go online to [www.sbcaf.org](http://www.sbcaf.org).**