



SANTA BARBARA  
CONTEMPORARY ARTS FORUM

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum (CAF) & the Department of Art at UCSB co-present *Dreamtigers: University of California Santa Barbara MFA Exhibition*. Also on view: **Bloom Projects: Stephanie Mansolf and Kat Trajano's Acid Lovechild**.

On Exhibition June 6 - July 10, 2009

Opening Reception Saturday, June 6, 2009 from 6-8 PM



**Carrie Maseredjian**

*Can't Go Chasing Tumbleweeds*, 2008

Photographs, paint on tumbleweed, steel, wall drawing

Dimensions Variable

Courtesy the Artist

**Santa Barbara, CA.—Meet Tomorrow's Masters!** CAF celebrates the end of the school year with *Dreamtigers: University of California Santa Barbara MFA Exhibition* featuring Calico Brown, Alejandro Casazi, Elizabeth Folk, Nathan Hayden, and Carrie Maseredjian. Having completed a rigorous two-year graduate study with UCSB's prestigious art program, these five artists will present a range of distinct artistic practices and expression. "One of CAF's core missions is to highlight the array of new creative activity in our area and we are delighted to spotlight these emerging artists," says Executive Director Miki Garcia. With UCSB's University Art Museum (UAM) undergoing a building retrofit, CAF and the Department of Art at UCSB took advantage of this rare opportunity to go beyond the academy—extending the university's activities into the Santa Barbara community at large.

Organized by CAF Executive Director, Miki Garcia and Artist and UCSB Department of Art Professor, Jane Callister, *Dreamtigers* according to Callister is "the product of diligent organization, many studio visits, and conversations with the artists leading to what we expect will be a lively and varied aesthetic showcase of UCSB's outstanding student artists." The title borrows from a work of Jorge Luis Borges of the same name. Considered one of his most personal works, the book comprises a collection of poems, parables, and short stories that at first glance seem dissimilar, but taken together form a subtly cohesive portrait of the author. Adopting this framework, this exhibition at CAF also offers a range of distinct artistic practices and expression from the five MFA graduates. Altogether, *Dreamtigers* is a unified presentation of emerging artists working in the field today.

Thank you to all the faculty and staff of the University of California, Santa Barbara Department of Art—especially Colin Gardner, Department Chair and Jane Callister, Professor of Art and Graduate Committee Chair. Special thanks to the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, David Marshall, Dean of Humanities and Fine Arts and the Executive Dean of the College of Letters and Sciences. The Department of Art would like to also thank Julie and David Broida for their support of our students.



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**Stephanie Mansolf and Kat Trajano**  
*Acid Lovechild*, 2009  
Mixed media  
Dimensions variable  
Courtesy the Artists

**Bloom Projects:** Stephanie Mansolf and Kat Trajano, *Acid Lovechild*

UCSB alumnae, Mansolf and Trajano will occupy the Charles Bloom and Glass Box galleries with their installation, *Acid Lovechild*. Inspired by influences as diverse as the domestic realm, Victorian-era crafts, and campy horror flicks, the artists will translate CAF's galleries into a scene of glittery bedlam. Signs of a passionate crime interlaced with florid and feminine imagery will reveal a couple's love nest fraught with turmoil.

Both Mansolf and Trajano recently received wide acclaim in the local arts community when—as undergraduates—they were commissioned by the chic Presidio Motel to transform the business into an avant-garde and eclectic *art motel*. Mansolf is currently pursuing her MFA at California College of the Arts in San Francisco, CA. Trajano works/lives in Santa Barbara and Los Angeles, CA.

This exhibition has been made possible in part by the generous support of the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.

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 33<sup>rd</sup> 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).**

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