

# PATRICIA SWEETOW GALLERY

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**PATRICIA SWEETOW GALLERY** is pleased to announce our Second Annual Curated Exhibition with Guest Curator, Jeanne C. Finley. Exhibition artists include **Bayeté Ross Smith, Amanda Herman, Reggie Stump, David Gurman, Tommy Becker, and Aaron Delehanty**. Five of the six artists are California College of the Arts MFA Graduates, celebrating CCA's Centennial. Exhibition dates are July 5 - August 11, 2007. Please join us for a conversation and walk-through with the artists this Saturday, July 14, at 2 pm.

Inchoate celebrates the California College of the Arts centennial with 5 media artists and one painter, all of whom explore the boundaries of political, social and personal space. Ranging from the intimacy of the domestic interiors of Reggie Stump's three-channel video to the Amanda Herman's documentary video of a New Orleans' family displaced by hurricane Katrina, each of these artists questions the political/social implications of the human habitation.

**Bayeté Ross Smith** project, *Taking AIM* places a standard Bull Target in front of a head and shoulder image of 4 men and women. By questioning where one stands physically (in front of the camera, in front of the gun?) these images question the sport of target practice with the reality of who is the target. Ross Smith examines the use and control of the photographic space through their social construction.

**Tommy Becker's** videos combine raw poetics with performance, music and costume design to create sentimental vignettes for his never-ending saga titled, "TAPE NUMBER ONE". Becker's carefully orchestrated delivery of words drives his visual collage works while juxtaposing unusual word-image combinations. In his video performances, spoken word highlights the humorous yet melancholy state of his characters as they struggle to overcome and identify the adversity of their socially constructed environment.

In **David Gurman's** installation, *Reflector: 33.20N, 43.55E*, field recordings of urban street fighting made by an American Marine in Al Fallujah, Iraq in 2004 are played by a 12-inch subwoofer that vibrates a clear water tank at subsonic frequencies. The water's surface acts as a lens for a halogen projection. The projection is a 10-foot light orb with waves emanating from its bottom axis. The waves shift over time: the orb sits silently for a few moments and then waves violently course over the surface. The Reflector Project is a platform to question the mediated rhetoric that distilled the goals for the 2003 Iraq occupation down to the spread of democracy, freedom and prosperity, while negating in the same conversation the violent means that would be necessary to establish these ideals. The intention is to create an aesthetic dissonance between the image and the sound; while visually syncopated through direct report in the water waves, the violent nature of the street fighting is at odds with the ethereal, pulsing light orb.

As an Artist and Architect, **Reggie Stumps** three channel video installation, *House of Know-How*, breaks down the seemingly rigid absolutes of architectural experience. The familiar domestic place is reconfigured and recontextualized through gesture, equipment and character, thus giving "placelessness" a visual presence. Each room is mapped with three video cameras and the characters move between spaces, both breaking through and remaining confined by the social discourse defined by their architecture.

**Aaron Delehanty's** paintings present the relationship between human pursuit and the landscape. Evident in his paintings are the places where travel leaves footprints, fences delineate land-based social situations, and tall skinny buildings have an uncertain soundness that may or may not withstand the forces of the earth. Mr. Delehanty's interest in the notion that eras of human progress are always preceded by eras of regression imbues his paintings with a climate of uncertainty if one's present era is moving forward or regressing towards dissolution.

**Amanda Herman's** 25 minute documentary, follows a New Orleans family through hurricane Katrina and its aftermath. As the flood waters rise and they wait to be rescued, various family members are dispersed, first throughout the city, and later throughout the country. Each family member has a different story to tell about the effects of the disaster and the individual catalogue of losses and gains they experienced.

For further information and press materials please contact the gallery at 415-788-5126.

Gallery hours: Tuesday through Saturday 10:30 - 5:30 pm.

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