

Mission Arts

Monthly

February 2007

FREE

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Cover:
HairScapes. 32 x 34". Charcoal on canvas
Paz de la Calzada

Art Explosion Studios & Gallery

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Photography
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We have a great artist community with over 200 artists at two locations. The studios have darkrooms, kilns, natural light, figure drawing and a chance to grow and learn as an artist. The gallery offers selling exposure and opportunities to interact with the public.

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Editors Note:

Mission Arts will go live so to speak and update art events on our home page on a daily basis so that we are more current. We hope this will be helpful as we cover the events in the Mission. Enjoy.

Geoff Wolfe
Editor

MISSION ARTS MONTHLY 744 Alabama Street, San Francisco, CA 94110 www.missionarts.org
Mission Arts Monthly is published by Mission Arts Foundation which is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping the artists and art organizations of the greater Mission District. It is distributed free of charge during the first week of the month.

The Online version can be found at: **www.**

MissionArts.org

Mission Arts Monthly encourages writers, artists, arts organizations, galleries, theaters, cartoonists and anyone else to submit articles, photos, letters and press releases for inclusion by e-mail to:

editor@missionarts.org

All submissions for publication must be by e-mail and may be edited for clarity and length.

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Visual Narratives: “Art, Resurrected”

by Leena Prasad

An unknown artist, Peter Witwer, is shot and killed near his home in San Francisco’s Haight Ashbury neighborhood. Forty years later, his paintings are resurrected and art patrons and collectors buy most of his pieces. Witwer was part of the figurative art movement occurring in the Bay Area during his lifetime. He wasn’t around to reach the critical acclaim achieved by his contemporary figurative artists like David Parks or Diebenkorn. But, thanks to a local art gallery, Witwer’s lifetime of work, bought by a friend after his death, is finally hanging on the walls of many art aficionados.

The gallery that discovered Witwer is Lost Art Salon, found in July 2005 by Rob Delamater and Gaétan Caron. It is fashioned after the 1920’s Paris salons where the openings of exhibits were social events that took place at the houses of art patrons. In the spirit of those salons, Rob and Gaetan have created a living-room setup inside the salon with coffee table, sofas, and chairs where visitors can relax with a cup of tea during their visit. For the opening of new exhibits, the owners throw parties with food, drink, and festivities that often include live performances ranging from flamenco to vaudeville acts.



Gallery Guest

photo by Leena Prasad

During the day, natural light filters in through the large wall-to-wall windows and illuminates the cornucopia of art in this space. The walls beckon with a diverse style of paintings, sketches, watercolors, and more. The tables and shelves and all available flat surfaces seduce the eyes with an array of objects ranging from delicate glass pieces to ceramic pottery objects to sculptures created from a diverse set of materials. The pieces share the facts that most of the unknown/slightly known artists are dead, that the works were created between 1900 and 1969 and that they were lovingly selected by Rob and Geatan for this unpretentious gallery.

Finding these unique object d’art entails a lot of diligent work. The gallery owners attend private sales, estate sales and various exhibits to find something that entices them and fits their thematic setting. Sometimes family members of artist contact the salon.

In the case of deceased artist Paul W. McCoy, his daughter contacted the Lost Art Salon. While alive, McCoy, a writer and

editor, took off two years from work and spent them painting bucolic scenes of the Spanish countryside. He was too shy to exhibit his pieces during his lifetime so his family never had a chance to bask in the glory of his talent. Recently, however, his wife and daughters enjoyed an art opening in his honor. After the opening exhibit at The Lost Art Salon, McCoy's pieces are hanging at the Park Hotel in San Francisco. Some of his pieces have also been featured in Williams Sonoma advertisements.

Not all the artists at the Lost Art Salon are 'discovered,' however. Some of them have achieved acclaim while alive. Rob and Gaetan stumbled across Wiveca R. Rubinow via a single painting they purchased at a show in Napa. Placing a photo of the piece on their website resulted in a phone call from a Rubinow collector. The Salon acquired the collection and has been selling them to interested patrons. Rubinow is one of the few artists featured at the salon who made money from her art while still alive.



Rob Delamater

photo by Leena Prasad

The clientele of this gallery ranges from private collectors, independent filmmakers, and interior designers to commercial clients like Williams Sonoma, Pottery Barn, and Tommy Hilfiger. Priced at under one thousand dollars, including framing, the pieces are affordable for young aspiring collectors. The art rental fees are also reasonable for independent filmmakers and attractive to commercial clients who just want to rent the pieces for a particular show. Some clients come here because they are looking for a particular theme or for period pieces.

This is not to say that ALL the pieces at the salon cost less than \$1000. Some of the pieces cost more because the artist is well known. For instance, the owners accidentally discovered woodcut pieces by Vernon E. Smith, an artist who has exhibited at the New York Museum of Modern Art and at the Smithsonian. The pieces would have gone unnoticed if it hadn't been for the fact that the renter of a storage space defaulted on payment and the owners auctioned off all the items in the space. Luckily for Rob and Gaetan, the Smith pieces were included in this sale. It's ironic that the storage space renter could not afford to pay rent on his space because these pieces are now priced in the range of \$3000-\$4000.

There are compelling stories behind many of the pieces at this Mission space. The owners spawned the idea for the gallery by collecting period pieces as a hobby; they have their own stories to tell about the journey that has led to full-time dream jobs for them. Ask them about the various collections and be prepared to hear a story that will raise your spirits in empathy for the artists whose talents and passion are being resurrected in this cozy and friendly art salon. The next exhibit at The Lost Art Salon (<http://www.lostartsalon.com>) 245 S. Van Ness #303 (at 13th) San Francisco, CA is scheduled to open on Thursday February 22, 2007. Visit the website for details.

For a full .pdf version of this column (including gallery photos), go to <http://www.missionarts.org/0702/0702.pdf>
For comments/complaints/kudos/article ideas/etc., please write to Leena Prasad at art@WeAreNotAmused.com. Please let me know in your letter if it would be okay to publish it as part of this column.

Kenneth Cooper
Laurie Anderson
Wm. McElhiney
Jeffrey Blankfort
Jane Grossenbacher
E. Dale Erickson
Bern Rauch
Bernard Catchings
Carrie Nardello
Maria Gilardin
Robt Burg
Jane McElhiney
Keith Bjorkman
Pico Sanchez
Raya-Saturn Jewels
Logos Graphics
Pepe Ozan
Phil Deal
Alon Picker
Quorey Golob
Ricky Weisbroth

MISSION OPEN STUDIOS 2007

MAY 12 + 13 2007 11AM—6PM

PREVIEW EVENT: **MAY 11 7—10 PM**

Project Artaud

499 ALABAMA STREET

[BETWEEN 17th + MARIPOSA]

SAN FRANCISCO 94110





Intersection's 2007 Auction Fundraiser

March 14 - 28, 2007

Gallery Hours: Tues by appt, Wed - Sat, 12 - 5pm, FREE

Auction: Wednesday March 28, 2007 @ 7pm

(Live Auction Begins @ 8:30pm) \$5-\$20/sliding scale admission

Artists Listed Below

Intersection's biggest and most exciting Annual Fundraising Event, this exhibition/auction features the work of over 50 of the Bay Area's most celebrated artists. Every work of art is affordably available to take home via silent auction during the exhibition run and a live auction event on Wednesday March 28, with proceeds benefiting Intersection in our 42nd year.

Intersection *"is populated with artists from the community whose priorities are not to converse exclusively with other artists or the art world, but with people who want to use the culture of art as a catalyst to communicate with the community around them. This has been the basis of Intersection for over forty years."* - Sarah Lidgus, *Afterimage*



Free Chocolate by April Banks

Now through February 17, 2007 at Intersection for the Arts

Gallery Hours: Tues by appt, Wed - Sat, 12 - 5pm, FREE

Wednesday February 7 @ 7pm

Bittersweet Politics: Panel Discussion about fair trade & chocolate with Tex Dworkin (Global Exchange), Ella Silverman (TransFair USA) & Tom Neuhaus (Project Hope & Fairness, Sweet Earth Organic Chocolates), FREE

Join us for a conversation about critical aspects of the production, distribution and consumption of chocolate.

Thursday February 8 @ 7pm

Heart Shaped Box: Truffle Making Workshop, \$5-\$20

Space is limited and on a first-come basis.

[RSVP online by clicking here >>](#)

Meet Tom Neuhaus, Founder of Sweet Earth Organic Chocolates, and learn about organic fair-trade cacao cultivation while you create a chocolate heart box and make your own truffles in this hands on workshop.

We love chocolate. As the world's largest chocolate consumer, the U.S. imported 729,000 tons of cocoa beans/processed products in 2000, ate 3.3 billion pounds of chocolate, and spent \$13 billion on it. Yet, the majority of cocoa producers around the world struggle with poverty and, even after years of cultivating and harvesting cacao trees, many have never tasted a piece of chocolate. Based on research and travel to cacao farms in Ghana and Cuba and to the New York Board of Trade, Bay Area conceptual artist [April Banks](#)' first solo exhibition explores cocoa's global journey from farmer, to trader, to chocolate lover. This layered installation illuminates our desire for beauty, sweetness, indulgence, and intoxication within the context of issues of globalism, fair trade and sustainability. Tracing the complex way in which we participate in global economies, Banks juxtaposes the basic human need, desire, greed, and guilt that drive our structures of consumption.



Solo Mujeres

Exhibition:

Friday February 16 – March 30, 2007

Gala Reception:

**Friday February 16, 2007
7:00- 10:00 PM**

Forms:

[Entry and Guidelines](#)

[Details](#)

**Mission Cultural Center
for Latino Arts**

**Attn: Patricia Rodriguez, Curator
2868 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94110**



[Ledia Carroll](#)

October 13, 2006 - March 3, 2007

In Mission Lake Project, Ledia Carroll will use a field line chalker to recreate the full perimeter of Lago Dolores, a former freshwater lake as part of her Mission Lake Project. This shoreline stretched from what is now South Van Ness to Guerrero and 15th to 20th Streets. Drawing the line in reference to maps from the 1800s, Carroll's chalkline allows the still visible ancient depression of the lake to become apparent to the eye. In conjunction with the re-created lake shoreline, Ledia Carroll presents a "lakeside" barbeque and perimeter bike race.

A related display of maps, drawings, and ephemera by Ledia Carroll and collaborators Ning Deng, Darcy Nuffer, and Jamie White will be on display at Southern Exposure through December 20, 2006.

Locations include: The perimeter of Mission Lake bordering South Van Ness to Guerrero and 15th to 20th Streets, Mission Park and Playground on Valencia Street between 19th and 20th Streets, and several secret waterways to be announced.

WORKSPACE LIMITED

Mission Open Studios

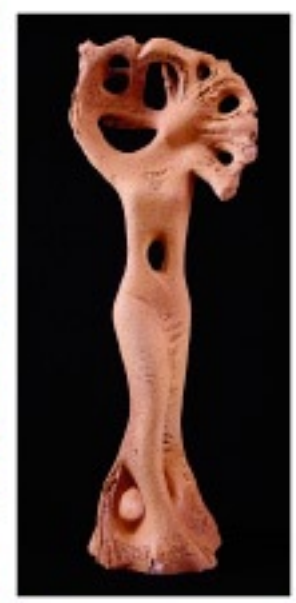
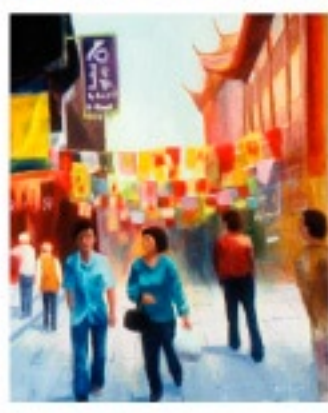
Sat & Sun - May 12 & 13
11 am to 6 pm

Preview Party

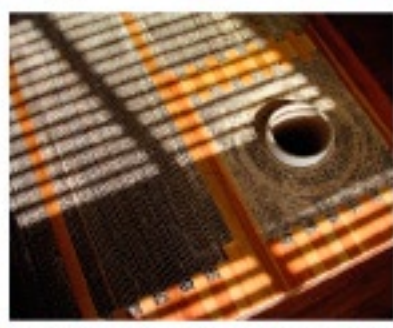
Live Entertainment
Friday, May 11
7-11 pm

2150 Folsom
between 17th & 18th Streets

workspacelimited.org



Visit our exciting new arts center. Over 60 artists working in diverse mediums + gallery and special events space.



		17th ST	
		POLSON	THEAT
5 WAY NESS	★	SIGHTSILL	MORNING
		18th ST	

From top to bottom, left to right: Lisa Knoopp, Dixie Gaye Ivins, Ann T Elliott, Mr Rogers, Delfino Finetti, Lisa Costello, Robert Reed, Tana Powell, Natasha Cikareva, Derek Nunn, M Walker Hall, Miles Epstein

Shown here: A sample of some of the artists who will open their studios May 11-13, 2007
To see these & more of our artists please go to workspacelimited.org

6 Pack

February 7 - 24, 2007

Opening Reception: Friday, February 9, 6-9PM

Gallery Hours: Wednesdays-Saturdays, 1-6PM

The LAB will be subdivided into six smaller gallery spaces for this exhibition showcasing emerging talent from across the country:

Sarah Applebaum creates intricate ink drawings of nothing in particular--and yet through the repetition of one simple mark something definite, though indefinable, emerges. Her work elicits many associations: fur, fire, lichen, or sperm. What Applebaum attempts to draw are not these impressions themselves, but rather the pure illustrative archetypes from which these associations and many others are made.

Sarah Bereza portrays her past with an intimate look at a world of friendship, camaraderie, sex and violence. Before moving to New York City, Bereza was a sorority girl. Influenced by this era of her life, many of Bereza's paintings depict portraits of friends posed in sexually charged situations. Bereza will also show a second series of work depicting women's portraits--defiant,

diffident, disgusted, or despondent. Entitled *The Conquests*, these works evoke taxidermied trophies, turning the viewer into the ladykiller who has mounted each victim on the wall of his den.

Matthew Cox attempts to explore the human experience, which finds solace and security in everyday tasks, emphasizing the duality between the need for stability and the desire for drama. Repetitive drawing, kinetic sculpture, and animation are the media and processes through which the artist explores these themes. Cox examines his own everyday experiences as part of a daily routine--the resulting work reveals how repetition, the mundane, and even boredom can become positive qualities and actions of beauty.

David King pushes the medium of collage beyond normal expectations. Of particular interest is transformation, and how he can re-use and re-imagine images into entirely new contexts and meanings. Pearls and diamonds from Sotheby's auction catalogs become cellular structures. 1980s beefcake icons and 60s exercise girls become Hindu gods and goddesses. For King, collage has emerged as the medium through which he can uniquely express thoughts on sexuality, spirituality and mortality.

Meredith Miller photographs women who struggle with obesity in a positive way rather than a negative or objectifying one. Her visual language, inspired by Rembrandt's treatment of voluptuous nudes, enables her to photograph models so that their beauty and grace transcend their generous girth. In this way, Miller attempts to challenge the perceptions of obesity in women. Miller hopes to show not only her subjects a new way of seeing themselves, but also her audience a new way of seeing her subjects.

Joseph Rizzo's work focuses on the symbols that are used to characterize the ideas and identities of nations. Rizzo examines how this visual language expresses the politics and cultures of the world. He is particularly intrigued with the way iconic animal imagery is used in popular narratives, films, insignia, fairy tales, children's stories, and myths to signify general traits, emotions, or behaviors in people. In this work, Rizzo uses animal symbolism to reference social and political issues such as modern imperialism, environmental pollution, and government surveillance.





Systems & Transmutations

An exhibition exploring systematic and transformative approaches to making art Curated by Michelle Mansour

This exhibition features the work of over 25 artists working in painting, drawing, collage, sculpture, installation, video, and mixed media. All of the artists in this show use a systematic process of compiling and creating content in the making of their work. By employing structured geometry (stripes, grids, formulas), labor-intensive mark making (dots, cross-hatching, text), methodical deconstruction/reconstruction, or focused minimalism, the works emphasize the potential of their individual parts--describing not only what is made but also paying tribute to the act of making. With influences that include Chinese brush painting, Bill Viola's mystical videos, Agnes Martin's meditatively marked fields, Julie Mehretu's personal and schematic fields, Fred Tomaselli's intricately crafted surfaces, and Tom Friedman's uncanny creations, the artists in this show investigate the optical, the obsessive, the meditative, the otherworldly, and ultimately the transformative.

Featuring work by:

[Anna Bogatin](#), [Vanessa Blaikie](#), [Cheryl Coon](#), [Dan Cox](#), [Jeff Eisenberg](#), [Leo Estevez*](#), [Theresa Ganz](#), [Amy Hicks](#), [Rachael Jablo*](#), [David O' Johnson*](#), [Keira Kotler](#), [Katie Lewis](#), [Michelle Mansour](#), [Lisa McCutcheon](#), [Moirra Murdock](#), [Toban Nichols](#), [Jenna North*](#), [Bernardo Poggi-Leigh*](#), [Mel Prest](#), [Mark Ruxin](#), [Laura Shipp](#), [Ray Souder*](#), [Lisa Stoneman](#), [Amber Stucke](#), [Maria Vasconcelos](#), [Sarah Walker](#), [Liz Walsh](#)

*Root Division Resident Artist

Opening Reception: Saturday, February 10, 7-10pm

Dates of Exhibition: February 9-28, 2007

Gallery Hours for the Exhibition: Wednesdays- Saturdays, 12-4 pm (or by appointment)

Gallery 3175 ROOT DIVISION

3175 17th Street (at South Van Ness & Shotwell), San Francisco, CA 94110, 415.863.7668

Mission Open Studios

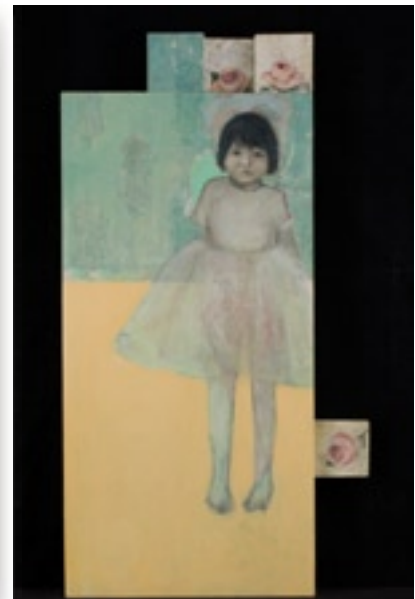


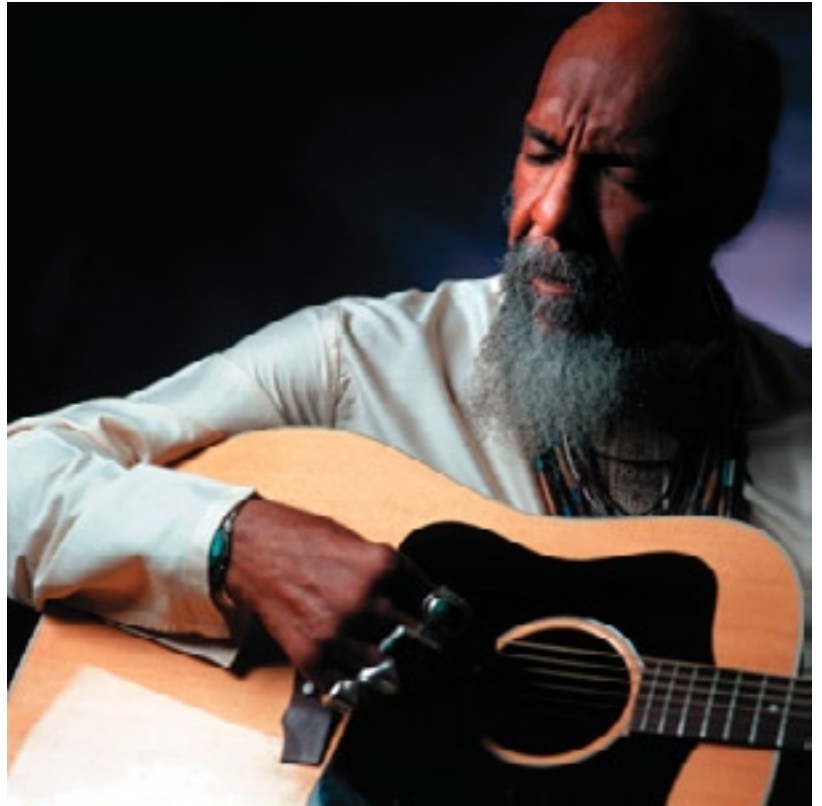
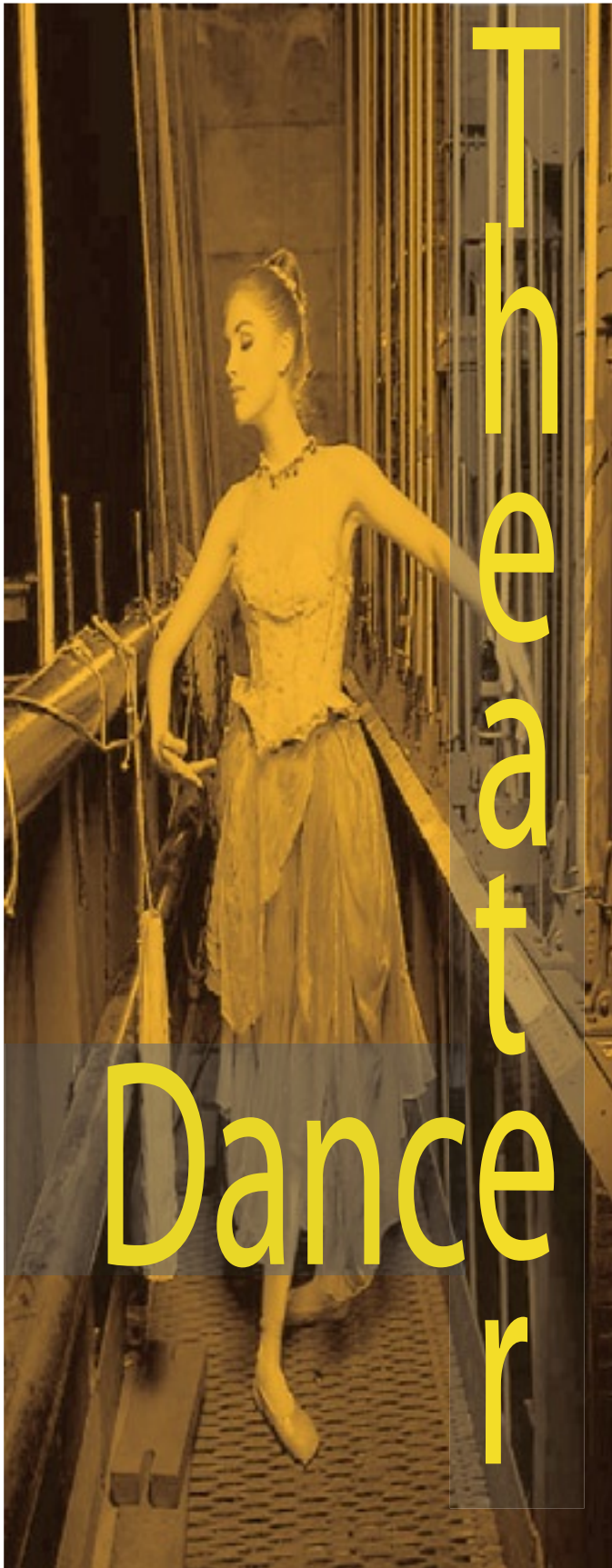
Art Explosion Studios

Two Locations: over 100 artists
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Opening Reception: May 11th 7pm-11pm
Open Studios: Sat May 12th 11am-6pm
Sun May 13th 11am-6pm

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Saturday, March 3rd 8pm
BRAVA THEATER CENTER
presents

Richie Havens

Ticket Prices: \$30 mezzanine \$35 main floor
\$4 discount to seniors, students, neighbors & groups

Richie Havens is gifted with one of the most recognizable voices in popular music. His fiery, poignant, always soulful singing style has remained unique and ageless since he first electrified audiences at Woodstock in 1969 when he was asked to hold the stage for over three hours, ending with his improvisation of the legendary "Freedom." For three decades, Havens has used his music to convey messages of brotherhood and social justice. With over twenty albums released and a rigorous touring schedule, he continues to view his calling as a high one. He says: "I really sing songs that move me. I'm not in show business; I'm in the communications business."

The Black Choreographers Festival: Here & Now 2007

presents
Next Wave Choreographers
Showcase
Co-sponsored by Dance
Mission Theater

**WHEN: Friday and
Saturday, February 23
and 24, 2007**

All Shows at 8 PM

**WHERE: Dance Mission
Theater**

3316 24th Street at Mission,
San Francisco
(Across the street from 24th
Street BART)

TICKETS: \$15.00 general
seating

RESERVATIONS: Strongly
recommended (415) 273-
4633

MORE INFORMATION: For
the full Festival Calendar,
Special Events and Master
Classes, please visit [www.
bcfhereandnow.com](http://www.bcfhereandnow.com).

Featuring: Ramon Ramos
Alayo / Alayo Dance
Company
Amara Tabor Smith/ Deep
Waters Dance Theater



Raissa Simpson*, / Push Dance
Company
Nora Chipaumire performed by
soloist Zari Le'on
Malia Connor / Malia Movement
Company
Jamie Wright/ The DanceWright
Project
and more...

*Programming subject to change
For Festival information: 510-801-
4523 / 866-898-2722

Lunada Literary Lounge and Open Mic featuring Aya de Leon

Saturday, March 3 - 7:30 p.m.

Admission: \$5 (free w/ food dish or Galeria membership)

Writer, performer, hip hop theater artist, poetic activist, and community healer Aya de Leon lives in the Oakland Bay Area. Her work has received acclaim in the *Village Voice*, *Washington Post*, *American Theatre Magazine*, the *Oakland Tribune*, and *San Francisco Chronicle*. She was named best discovery in theater for 2004 by the *SF Chronicle*, and also in 2004, she received a Goldie award from the *SF Bay Guardian* in spoken word. In 2005 she was voted "Slamminest Poet" in the annual *East Bay Express* Best of the Bay. In November 2006, Aya performed in *Voices of a People's History* with Mos Def, Alice Walker, Luis Valdez, Howard Zinn, Anthony Arnove, and others. In April of 2005, Aya and Mos Def co-hosted a kickoff rally for Current TV, Al Gore's new cable network.

Aya has taught spoken word and poetry at Stanford University, and has been a guest artist in residence at New York Theatre Workshop. She is a Cave Canem poetry fellow, and a slam poetry champion. In 2003 she presented her work at the Ford Foundation in New York and The Mark Taper Forum in LA.

A graduate of Harvard College, Aya studied theater with Whoopi Goldberg, the San Francisco Mime Troupe, and the Jean Shelton School. She also studied fiction in the MFA program at Bennington College. She is currently working on her first novel and a collection of essays about self-love.

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"Illusion"
Takami & MoBu Dance Group
Direction and choreography by Takami

Feb 9, 10, 11, 2007
Fri. and Sat. at 8pm Sun. at 7pm

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Takami & MoBu Dance Group collaborate with Kana Tanaka (installation artist) and Jorge Backmann (sound artist) to transform Project Artaud Theater into a magical realm wherein the audience is invited to question reality and the nature of truth.

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Last Thursday of Every Month**

Signup 7:30P, Show 8P

Tix: Performers \$5, Audience \$10

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CRACK IT
OPEN, BOYS!



HMMM...



BUT THE
FUDGEMETER'S
PINNED...

UNLESS...
THE TRUCK
IS FUDGE!



HAWKINS! EAT THIS TRUCK!

YESSIR!



clank krnk



Iff nog fuj,
zshir..

NO?



WELL...

KEEP
TRYING,
HAWKINS...

film



noise+video

tralphaz /core of the coalman/ploc munster

ATA Friday, February 23, 2007. 8PM \$6

TRALPHAZ can best be described as an experience in over-the-counter broken Chinese just talking to 55555 meat cleavers hitting military skyplane side by side electronical sleeping smell. Based in San Francisco, TRALPHAZ has made several live appearances across the U.S. and has released material on labels such as Troniks, Harshnoise, Deathbomb Arc, and Resipiscent. This event will mark the return of TRALPHAZ since first performing at the ATA in 2001.

www.tralphaz.com

www.myspace.com/babytralphaz

CORE OF THE COALMAN (Messrs. Ann Joy Ann, Dan Wrath, and others) inhabit the attic where the Comte Isidore Ducasse's bones have been stored since his death, though they were much picked over when found in the company of a rough legged hawk. The men immediately formed a barbershop quartet dedicated to performing baroque slink slop in concordance with thermoelectric properties. Thus when they were hot, they were hot. That is, until one Bob Doubles found a cure for the baritone in the groups chronic coryza. It was a theoretical cure, and while the predicament was alleviated the gecephalo-cortex was direly affected, and an initiative of obsessive fusion of geological and musical time frames became supercooled and thus glacially motivated. Slow in form but motivated and etched by sunshine continually, in the spirit of biting the hand that feeds one, Core of the Coalman is dyspeptic subtended prescient lacuna.

www.myspace.com/coreogthecoalman

www.geocities.com/sevencentralandmountain

PLOC MUNSTER, an offshoot of Micoise & the Mau Maus, offers a texturally rich and disorienting aural experience; interweaving start/stop blasts with thick slabs of drones, processed field recordings, and crackling electronics with gurgling sounds only a slobbering humanoid orifice can create. With analog hiss featured side by side with digital crispness, Ploc Munster attempts to create rich sound collages that constantly shift, with no beginning or end in sight.

www.myspace.com/plocmunster



OpenScreening

ATA Thursday, February 15. 8PM \$5

See fresh perspectives and formula shattering techniques in film, video and music art from the Bay Area and beyond! One hour of shorts are accepted monthly on an open revolving basis, anything goes with the screened work, and the refreshments are pretty good too.

\$5, FREE admission for contributing artists.
Door/Bar: 7:30pm
Projector: 8pm

Submissions:

Label all tapes w/ name, contact, title and length.

Mail to: Openscreening, 992 Valencia, SF, 94110

1-2 week advance submissions strongly recommended.

Max length: 15 min.

Formats: DVD, miniDV/DVcam, VHS, beta, 8mm and 16mm

All genres.

More Info: contact 415-824-3890 or openscreening@atasite.org



OTHER CINEMA

SAT. 2/24: AN EVENING WITH JEM COHEN

Saturday at 8:30 at 992 Valencia (@ 21st) in the Mission.

Our season kicks off with an extraordinary event: an in-person appearance by the legendary small-gauge master, **Mr. Jem Cohen**. Based in **NYC**, **Jem** comes out to the **Coast** for a very rare visit and personal exchange with enthusiasts of his first-person camerawork, "thriving on the collision between documentary, narrative, and experimental approaches." In the show's opening half, he will share a selection of his poetic works—several on celluloid!—that rhapsodize on the lives and musics of **Elliot Smith**, **Sparklehorse**, **Godspeed You! Black Emperor**, and others. The anchor of the show is Jem's exquisite **Super 8**-shot meditation on history and memory in **Eastern Europe**, ***Buried in Light***. Special admission: \$7.

How to Be Happy

by Shannon Wheeler

DOWN AT THE HYPOCRITE'S CAFE

