A Wall as a Window

Much of the past several months in America have been comprised of various levels of anemic dissent, oblivious patriotism, and mind-boggling disgust in response to war and global politics. And while many artists continue to isolate themselves in the realms of the commercial and the internet, there appears to be a need for a more collective and antiauthoritarian awareness to take precedence. Now is not the time for placeless paralysis.

Here at CCAC, we've seen the ambition and political passion of Jim Ricks take stance and provide a necessary push towards an interest in public art and voice, both visually and politically engaging. Ricks' "...arts over the past two years have helped to create a stable mural be within the CCAC community. This past semester, an undergraduate course in Ethnic Studies, titled 'Mexican Muralism,' has had a go at creating a mural on the large black wall in front of the Library/Founders Building on the Oakland campus.

Over this past semester, José Galindo and his class of around a dozen students have been saturating themselves in the past, present, and future implications of the mural. The class has exposed the students to the history and social affects of the mural, and has also prompted in-depth studies of the various models, concepts, and processes of muralism. Via a steady combination of lectures, slides, videos, as well as learning techniques of fresco painting and the importance of perspective and layout, the Mural class has proven to be a success.

The class began with the history of Mexican Muralism, as an early 20th century movement, which aimed at raising national consciousness via a public art depicting both cultural heritage and community awareness. Prominent muralists Diego Rivera, José Clemente Orozco, and David Alfaro Siqueiros stand out as the progenitors in the painting of such large scale works, with the intention to educate and challenge. Muralism is politically charged storytelling, a passing on of lineage and pride from generation to generation. And so the task at hand for this class was to "create a bridge between history and now" by distilling their studies in perspective and symbolic imagery, with an acquired understanding of the role of public art via the past and present, into the practice of making a mural.

Galindo's class appeared excited and fueled when I went to visit them on-site, taking turns on the scaffolding, continuously making decisions, putting final touches on their final project - a mural for the CCAC Community. Student, Ana Szyld spoke of the struggles and rewards that the Mural class has experienced throughout the semester. "We began asking ourselves, what are we going to do? who is our audience? and what do we want our political perspective to be?" And even though we all had different concerns, we formed a thematic, and went from there...

Another challenge that the class came upon was that of working together on an intensely charged group project. Szyld wisely offered, "the process itself has been the main lesson for us...we each had to speak up and also work together." Galindo, who studied and learned the art of muralism in Mexico, has been a "flame of knowledge," allowing his students to create this mural with their own political interests, conversation, and visual ideas. He says, "even though working in a group has been a struggle, the important thing is what we've come together to do."

The class's effort is now on view and they will be celebrating its completion with an opening reception on Wednesday, May 1 at noon. The panorama of this class's aspiration is boldly depicted and the display definitely conjures up the diversity found within the class. Szyld provided me with a thorough description of the mural, emphasizing the importance of symmetry and proportion. Themes of violence, war, and mass-production are balanced with hope, renewal, and painting itself. The mural is self-enacting and is evocative of murals from the Mexican lineage, juxtaposing metaphor with realism, public with private, hardship with possibility. Contributing muralist/student, Dave Otto commented, "the portrayal of our ideas has evolved into a new world theme, somewhat based off the idea of the Lost City of the Aztecs...and yet, in its entirety, it is common to our modern age...a need for regeneration and transformation."

Other students, such as Luis Garcia, have enjoyed the tools and techniques acquired in taking this class. Garcia said the most important part of the overall experience was in "learning how to best express political issues...to have an edge as well as a positive tone."

The group effort that this class has generated as a contribution to CCAC stands on its own as a public space large-scale work. The thrill of it is that these students chose to examine and carry out an activist endeavor, less for themselves and more for the community. Developing a narrative that offers hope in the face of the indefatigable war-machine is no small endeavor. As Lexi Babayan sincerely summed it up "...it's like an improvisational jazz band...it takes a special group of people to pull it off."

Michael Smoler
Weekly Reporter
bc_rock@hotmail.com
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CCAC Pre-College Workshop Teaching Opportunity

The Student Affairs Office is looking for people to lead interactive workshops for students in the Pre-College program. The Pre-College program is a three-week art intensive for high school students. They will take classes in the day that focus on traditional fields such as drawing, sculpture, graphic design, etc. In the evening the Student Affairs Office offers optional workshops that expand the student. We are looking for current or past student who would be interested in and qualified to present a Pre-College evening workshop. Workshops will be held between July 8th through 23rd on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays either from 4:30 PM. If you are interested in the opportunity, please contact Jen Miller with a workshop proposal at 510-594-3673 or email at jenmiller@ccac-art.edu. Workshop proposal forms are available in the CCAC NEWS email folder and in the Oakland and San Francisco Student Affairs Offices.

Mexico & England Study Abroad

Study abroad this summer and earn 3 credits! Space still available in this summer’s interdisciplinary studios in Chacala Mexico with Leslie Speer and Brazier’s park, England with Betty Jo Costanzo. Mexico program takes place May 19th– June 8th. The England program takes place July 13-27. See the schedule of classes for more details, or call Kathy Chao in the Extended Education at 510-594-3774.

Commencement Volunteers

Student Affairs is looking for students to help out at commencement. This is a great opportunity to see what it will be like when you graduate! If you’re interested in helping out, please sign up today!

Exhibition Updates & Information

Graduating students: The drop off date for the Commencement exhibition (Oliver Art Center) is Monday, May 6th between 9am-7pm. All work must be picked up from the Oliver Art Center by 4pm on May 14th. All work on the San Francisco campus must be picked up by 4pm on May 15th. Continuing students: The Deadline for confirming gallery space for Fall 2002 has past. If you have not sent in your confirmation and want to keep your space, please contact the exhibition coordinator in Student Affairs ASAP! Any unconfirmed shows will be filled from the waitlist.

Save the Date!!!

7th Street Initiative’s 1st Annual West Oakland Day of Art: 48 art works. [and growing!] 32 West Oakland sites. one day. Saturday, April 27. 10:00 am to 5:00 pm Reception Following Neighborhood art crawl and open studios KIDS encouraged to attend! Individual Artists and Art Organizations: 7th Street Initiative1724 Mandela Parkway (cross street 18th St) beginning April 20. Free bus shuttle departing from the 7th Street Initiative. Please make reservations for shuttle: 510.835.0833. Reception: Prescott-Joseph Center 5-7 pm

STUDENT COUNCIL DINNER

The Student Council & Program Board of CCAC request the honor of your presence at an All-College dinner on Saturday, April 27, 2002 at 8pm in the Caroll Weisel Hall of the SF campus. Food will be catered by La Mediterrane, atmospheric Artists will perform, and shuttle service between the campuses and Webster Hall will be provided. Dinner is complimentary for all members of the College community. For 10 dollars you may bring an outside guest. If you return your reply card with that of one other, the hosts will make every effort to seat you together. Please RSVP promptly as space is limited to 200.

CALLS

Should You Enter the 18th Film Arts Festival of Independent Cinema? Signs Point to Yes.

The Film Arts Festival of Independent Cinema, Northern California’s longest celebrated annual showcase of locally produced media, seeks films and videos of all lengths and genres. This year, we will accept one work per maker and works must have been completed after May of 2001. Please note that the Screening Committee will view works-in-progress with scheduled completion dates prior to September 2002. The Film Arts Festival occupies a unique place in the film festival-rich San Francisco Bay Area environment. Through its continued support of the independent filmmaking spirit, the festival is as likely to show works by old veterans as it is that of young upstarts. Each year the films and videos come together to create a snapshot of the artistic and social concerns of Northern California’s diverse and influential filmmaking community. For guidelines or an entry form, please go to www.filmarts.org and send an SASE to Film Arts Foundation, 346 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. WHEN: November 13-17, 2002. WHERE: San Francisco, CA. DEADLINES: Early Postmark ($15) Deadline is June 7, 2002. Final Postmark ($25) Deadline is July 5, 2002 CONTACT: Film Arts Foundation: 346 Ninth St., 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103. www.filmarts.org. (415)552-FILM. Film Arts Foundation has provided essential services to independent film and video makers for the last 25 years. With over 3,400 members, it is the largest regional organization of independent producers in the country. For more information about Film Arts Foundation, please check out www.filmarts.org.

Orientation Leaders Wanted

Try and remember when you first went away to college. The anticipation was palatable for most, not knowing the area or people, and having to arrange and balance school with the rest of life. The process is exciting, but not easy, and it sure would be nice to have some help with all of this. So here is your chance, as an experienced and knowledgeable CCAC student, to give back to your school and have fun doing it.

The Office of Student Affairs is looking for six to eight continuing CCAC students to assist with new student orientation Summer 2002, Fall 2002 and Spring 2003. The position runs from May to April (but you can also just do a semester as well) and involves helping entering students with everything from getting to know the area to finding the right class. Orientation leaders must be available for the week before classes in both Fall (August 20-September 3) Spring (January 6 –13) for Orientation Weeks and preparation. Additionally there will be some training, planning meetings and open house events to be listed in the application during the spring and summer. The only qualifications for the position are enthusiasm, an outgoing personality, and an interest in introducing new students to the CCAC community. Training is provided and a stipend of $350 (for both semesters and summer) is paid to participants. Orientation coordinator Jen Miller describes the time commitment as "piecemeal, flexible, and a good fit for people who do a variety of things during the summer and enjoy socializing." This position is meant to supplement, not replace academic advising and was created to give the student perspective on academic and social life at CCAC.

Applications are available in the Student Affairs Office and are due on April 26th. Interviews will be conducted during the week of April 29th. The job of Orientation Leader gives current students the opportunity to share their experience while doing service to the College. If you are interested in applying or would like more information contact Jen Miller at 510-594-3673 or jenmiller@ccac-art.edu.
LECTURES

April 23: CCAC Graduate Lecture Series presents
Tom Friedman, Conceptual Artist
7pm, Timken Lecture Hall, San Francisco Campus
Friedman’s hypnotically labor-intensive sculptures, works on paper, photographs, and site-specific installations take the art of process to absurd extremes, using mundane materials to make extraordinary and often amusing objects.

April 24: CCAC Graduate Lecture Series presents
Julie Lichtenberg, Artists & Activist
7pm, Boardroom, San Francisco Campus
Known for her innovative collaborations with youth and prisoners, Massachusetts-based Lichtenberg cofounded BOOM! theater before becoming codirector of The Performance Project: The Hampshire County Jail, where she works with inmates to write, choreograph, and direct performances.

April 24: CCAC Wood/Furniture Program/Lecture Series presents
Thomas Moser
7pm, Timken Lecture Hall, San Francisco Campus
Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers was founded over a quarter century ago to restore the lost art of fine woodworking. Formerly a Bates college professor, Tom Moser left teaching in 1973 to start making one-of-a-kind furniture in an old Grange Hall in New Gloucester, Maine. His wife Mary managed the selling and finances, while their four sons trained as young apprentices. Tom’s early designs bore a strong resemblance to Shaker, Queen Anne, Pennsylvania Dutch and other antique forms. In twenty-eight years, the company has grown from a one-man operation to over sixty cabinetmakers. In 1987 the company built a new workshop facility in Auburn, Maine, not far from its original location. In addition to mailing catalogs, Moser Cabinetmaker operates four showrooms located in San Francisco, New York, Charleston, South Carolina and Freeport, Maine, and will soon be opening a fifth in Chicago. Thomas Moser will talk about the history of Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers, his philosophy as a designer and speculate on the direction of the furniture industry in the USA in the 21st century.

April 25: Poetry Reading in the Nave, 7pm
Ayla Algar, who teaches in the Near Eastern Studies Department at UC Berkeley, will read and discuss her new book, completed in 2002. Algar, a native of Afghanistan, is a poet and writer whose work explores issues of identity and cultural belonging. Her poems have appeared in various literary journals and anthologies, and have been translated into several languages. In her latest publication, "This World," Algar explores the complexities of modern life through the lens of poetry. The event will feature readings and discussion by Algar, moderated by a panel of experts from UC Berkeley's Near Eastern Studies Department.

April 26: Foto-Grafix Books presents
Martin Parr
7:30pm, 655 Mission Street, San Francisco
In his only scheduled appearance in San Francisco, Martin Parr, Britain’s key contemporary photographer, will discuss his work and sign copies of MARTIN PARR: A Retrospective (Phaidon Press), the first published book about his work by Val Williams, writer and curator. A Magnum photographer since 1994, Parr has a unique point of view, an unmistakable signature, and enjoys a critical and popular following in the worlds of art, fashion, and journalism. He has been widely published and exhibited internationally. His work is in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London and the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris.

exhibitions

April 22-April 26

Oakland Campus

IPW: Shawn Robertson
Reception: Wednesday, 6-8 pm
North: William Cravis
Reception: TBA
South: Jenny Parker
Reception: TBA
Center: Michelle Barnhardt
Reception: Wednesday, 6-8 pm
Café: Janis Anton
Reception: Thursday 6-8 pm
Glass Case: Anthony Sondag

San Francisco Campus

East 1: Crit Space
East 2: Crit Space
West: Crit Space
Graduate Gallery: Kathryn Ward & Teri Dowling
Reception: Friday @ 6:30-8:30 pm

Alumni Activity
Squeak Carnwath
Nathan Oliveira
"Spring Forward: New Work from the Studio"
at the John Berggruen Gallery 228 Grant Ave., San Francisco, CA, 94108 415-781-4629
Opening reception: Thursday, April 18th from 5:30 - 7:30 pm. Show is open from April 18th to May 25th

CCAC "4ORUM" presents
DISSENT: Waging Art After 9-11
Artists respond to the Bush Doctrine, the War on Terrorism and the Newest World Order through Film, Spoken Word, Music and Art.
Featuring: Jay Rosenblatt, Caveh Zahedi, Richard Oyama, Doug Minkler, Alejandro Murguia, Ann Williams
Wednesday April 24th, La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley (one block east of the Ashby BART station) Doors open at 6:30 pm
Donations between $2 and $10 requested, no one turned away for lack of funds.

April 26: SFMOMA
Special program dedicated to the art of Eva Hesse
10:30am, Phyllis Wattis Theater, SFMOMA, 151 3rd St., San Francisco
You’re invited to “Contingent: Art and Conversation Review and Response”. It’s free to college students and faculty with ID. This program will begin with a video presentation of Professor Ann Middleton Wagner’s lecture from the previous evening, followed by discussion led by Wagner, Brigid Doherty of Johns Hopkins University, and Baltimore Museum of Art Curator, Helen Molesworth. Please call Stacey Cohen at 415-538-2691 to RSVP.
Graduate Assistant, Enrollment Services Office in San Francisco $ 9.00/Hr. Provide assistance to the assistant graduate advisor with various office duties. Participate in graduate reviews for painting and drawing. Organize slide carousels. Clerical tasks including filing, organizing. Art background with the ability to sit in on painting/drawing reviews and consult with the assistant graduate advisor on potential students' portfolios.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Photo Services Coordinator, The Asian Art Museum is looking for a Photo Services Coordinator. Duties include, photo-documentation of art objects; coordinating internal and external photographic requests; planning photo shooting schedule; maintaining archives containing slides; photographs and digital images; organizing and labeling all photographic materials; assisting curators, educators, docents and museum staff with internal requests for photographic materials. For complete job description go to http://www.asianart.org.

Project Architect/Designer, Chris Lamen + Associates, located in San Rafael, is looking for a talented full time employee to help design, develop and document projects and become part of a quality architectural firm. The firm has a history of award winning residential and mixed-use projects with an emphasis on affordable family and senior housing. The position is for a project/designer with 5 years minimum experience. Good communication, graphic and organizational skills, as well as proficiency in Vectorworks are minimum requirements for this position. Interested candidates should fax or e-mail resume to (415) 456-6525 or clamen@pacbell.net.

Junior Architect/Intern, Chris Lamen + Associates, located in San Rafael, is looking for junior architect/intern. The firm has a history of award winning residential and mixed-use projects with an emphasis on affordable family and senior housing. The position is for a junior architect/intern with 0-2 years experience. Very good communication, graphic and organizational, graphic and organizational skills as well as proficiency in Mac systems are minimum requirement for this position. Interested candidates should fax or e-mail resume to 415-456-6525 or clamen@pacbell.net.

Graphic Assistant, Creative Persuasion LLC is a Litigation Graphics Consulting firm that specializes in high level, conceptual demonstrative strategies for Litigators. Duties include design and create templates for use as posters, proof studio output for accuracy, maintain up-to-date job files, do correction and design on exhibits. For complete job description come to Student Affairs.

CLASSIFIEDS

Samples are taken from the binders found in the Student Affairs Office.

WORK STUDY JOBS

Graduate Assistant, Enrollment Services Office in San Francisco $ 9.00/Hr. Provide assistance to the assistant graduate advisor with various office duties. Participate in graduate reviews for painting and drawing. Organize slide carousels. Clerical tasks including filing, organizing. Art background with the ability to sit in on painting/drawing reviews and consult with the assistant graduate advisor on potential students' portfolios.

HOUSING

S550. Emeryville, share house with CCAC Graduate and student, 12 x 12 bedroom w/ hardwood floor, large kitchen, washer dryer, backyard, must like dogs, close to Bart, Jason 510 290 7090.

S475-S525. Jun-Aug sublet, house behind Martin Luther King and Alcatraz, 2.5 miles from CCAC, backyard, studio access, parking, furnished, Amy 510 205 4188.

S1100, 536 46th st, 1 bdrm, hardwood floor, newly painted , new kitchen, Vicki 510 763 2195.

S2800, Handsome Victorian building, 3bd, 1 bthrm, close to Bart, no smoking no pets, Wendy 510 652 5888.

S1200, 2 bdrm, 1 bthrm, hardwood floor, close to bart, available now, Wendy 510 652 5888.

S600, summer sublet, Piedmont, 5 mins from CCAC, large sunny room, parking, no pets, 510 923 9569.

S375 + 9 hrs of babysitting a week, close to bart, washer/ dryer, no smoker, childcare references, babysitting hours are very flexible, available May 15, Karen 510 654 5019.

S900, 1200 sq. ft. artist studio in Benicia barn that opens to yard with patio and fruit trees, 707 352 2212.