

# S O U T H E R N E X P O S U R E

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## SOUTHERN EXPOSURE CELEBRATES THE NEW YEAR WITH FOUR SOLO EXHIBITIONS

*January 11, 2008 – February 23, 2008*

**San Francisco – December 21, 2007**– From layers of artificial reality, to layers of wheat pasted art on the wall at 1240 Valencia Street, an evening garden of playful light on 14<sup>th</sup> Street at Valencia, and the realization of forgotten dreams, Southern Exposure kicks off the New Year with four solo exhibitions that command conversation.

Chris Bell, Elaine Buckholtz, Bruce Tomb, and Jenifer Wofford, the four exhibiting artists, tempt one's senses with their evocative installations at Southern Exposure's first show of the year. With all four artists engaging the senses beyond visuals, including the oft contentious 'art wall' on Valencia Street between 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Street, this Southern Exposure exhibition asks viewers to reconsider how they engage with the environment around themselves.

Australian native Chris Bell presents *Slow Pan Interior*, a video installation that seamlessly projects the gallery back onto itself or so one would think. The subtle shifting of the projected image turns the viewer's consciousness back to the gallery thus providing a newfound consideration of the space.

Elaine Buckholtz's work, *Scenes for a Box Carnival*, a video installation that takes an exterior approach to image projection, utilizes four projectors during the evening hours to light the Southern Exposure windows and trees and sidewalk directly outside the gallery, and mesmerize passersby with subtle, pulsating images. While walking through the city at night, you don't expect to find yourself suddenly pausing to marvel with others at the play of light on the trees. Discovering *Scenes for a Box Carnival* outside our gallery on 14th street is like finding a mysteriously peaceful garden in the middle of the city.

Bruce Tomb's project, *(de)Appropriation Project Archive*, which will officially launch on January 11, 2008, is a web-based and public art project. The website [www.deappropriationproject.net](http://www.deappropriationproject.net), focuses on 10 years of photographic documentation of the former Valencia Street police station, and the now prominently visible Valencia Street 'art wall' located between 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Streets. Tomb, an architect, furniture designer, artist, and owner of the Valencia Street building condones the wheat pasting and graffiti, though is insistent the wall belongs to those who use it, not him. Tomb's documentation of the wall has been archived, dated, meta-tagged, and sorted into a navigable web-based interface allowing the user to layer images of the wall from different years on top of one another.

Also working within the context of questioning is artist Jenifer Wofford, whose sculptural installation and wall painting, *Unseen Forces*, installed in the rear gallery at Southern Exposure, persuades viewers to consider or re-consider the intent of a walk-through metal detector and its constant influence in our lives. Or, as Wofford states in reference to walk-through metal detectors, "It's the dulling of our anxieties that gets me:

how bland we allow these processes to pretend to be. [Yet,] I somehow maintain a little thrill of delight in re-imagining their purpose. After all, they're thresholds." Recipient of the 2007 *SF Bay Guardian* Goldie Award in Visual Arts, the Southern Exposure exhibition is Wofford's first major solo show upon graduating with an MFA from Berkeley last year.

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Southern Exposure will open these four solo exhibitions with a **free artist presentation on Friday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**, and will continue their public programming on **Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm with a free public forum focused on Bruce Tomb's (de)Appropriation Project Archive** where Southern Exposure invites the public to voice their thoughts about the wall. *Have you tagged the wall? Do you consider it artwork? A nuisance? Does it build community or degrade it?*

#### **Four Solo Exhibitions and Public Art Projects**

**What:** Four Solo Exhibitions:  
Chris Bell *Slow Pan Interior*  
Video Installation  
Elaine Buckholtz *Scenes For A Box Carnival*  
A Site-Specific Window Light Installation  
Bruce Tomb *(de)Appropriation Project Archive*  
A Web-Based Archive and Public Art Project  
Jenifer Wofford *Unseen Forces*  
Installation

**Where:** **Southern Exposure**  
417 14<sup>th</sup> Street @ Valencia

**When:** **Exhibition Dates:** January 11 – February 23, 2007  
**Opening Reception:** Friday, January 11, 7 – 9 pm  
**Gallery Hours:** Tuesday – Saturday, 12 noon to 6 pm

#### **Public Program #1**

**What:** **Exhibition Opening & Artist Talks**  
Four Solo Exhibitions: Chris Bell, Elaine Buckholtz, Bruce Tomb, Jenifer Wofford

**Where:** **Southern Exposure**  
417 14<sup>th</sup> Street @ Valencia

**When:** **Friday, January 11th**  
6:30pm - Artists Talks  
7:00pm – 9:00pm - Opening Reception

**Cost:** **FREE**

#### **Public Program #2**

**What:** **(de)Appropriation Project Archive**  
**Public Meeting**  
Bruce Tomb

**Where:** **Southern Exposure**  
417 14<sup>th</sup> Street @ Valencia

**When:** **Wednesday, January 30th**  
6:30pm – 8:00pm

**Cost:** **FREE**

#### ***Mark your calendars.***

Upcoming at Southern Exposure on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 is the popular annual Monster Drawing Rally.

#### **ABOUT SOUTHERN EXPOSURE**

Southern Exposure is a 33-year-old, non-profit, artist-run organization dedicated to presenting distinct, innovative, contemporary visual art, arts education, and related programs and events, in an accessible environment. Southern Exposure reaches out to diverse audiences and serves as a forum and resource center, providing extraordinary support to the Bay Area's arts and educational communities. Activities include exhibitions of local, regional, and international visual artists' work, the presentation of art in public space, arts education programs, lectures, panel discussions, events, and performances. Southern Exposure is dedicated to giving artists—whether they are exhibiting, curating, teaching, or learning—an opportunity to realize ideas for projects that might not otherwise find support.