



[New Contemporaries I](#) Presented by the [San Diego Visual Arts Network](#)



### Emerging Artists:

- [Tania Candiani](#)
- [Alida Cervantes](#)
- [Lael Corbin](#)
- [Matt Devine](#)
- [Brian Dick](#)
- [Christopher N. Ferreria](#)
- [Andy Howell](#)
- [Pamela Jaeger](#)
- [Nina Karavasiles](#)
- [Ben Lavender](#)
- [Camilo Ontiveros](#)
- [Jason Sherry](#)
- [Tristan Shone](#)
- [Shannon Spanhake](#)
- [Brad Streeper](#)
- [Nina Waisman](#)
- [Allison Wiese](#)

Opening reception: June 22 from 6 pm to 9 pm

[Simayspace at the Art Academy](#)

Exhibition June 22 to July 27, 2007

For more info: [Patricia Frischer](#) 760.943.0148



### [New Contemporaries I: Emerging Artists nominated by SD Art Professionals](#)

The 2008 nominating committee, which changes yearly, consists of SD Art Prize recipients for the previous year, writers for the SD Art Prize Art Notes, Honorary Hosts and the SD Art Prize committee: ALL emerging artists in the SD region are eligible to be chosen by the established recipients each season including but not

limited to nominated artists in this and previous New Contemporaries exhibitions.

Doug Simay made the choice of works by these artists, spending hours to showcase each artist, so they could be seen in the best possible light. The SD Art Prize is extremely grateful to him for his efforts on our behalf. We hope viewers support this exhibition with your attendance and purchase of the works by these up and coming creative talents.



The **SD ART PRIZE** is dedicated to the idea that the visual arts are a necessary and rewarding ingredient of any world-class city and a building block of the lifestyle of its residents. Conceived to promote and encourage dialogue, reflection and social interaction about San Diego's artistic and cultural life, this annual award honors artistic expression. The **SD ART PRIZE**, a cash prize with exhibition opportunities, spotlights established San Diego artists and emerging artists whose outstanding achievements in the field of Visual Arts merit the recognition.

#### [Award Recipients for 2006/2007](#)

**Raul Guerrero** with emerging artist **Yvonne Venegas**

**Jean Lowe** with emerging artist **Iana Quesnell**

**Ernest Silva** with emerging artist **May-ling Martinez**

**The Goals of the SD ART PRIZE**, as presented by the San Diego Visual Arts Network, are to:

- Recognize and celebrate existing visual art accomplishments by spotlighting local artists.
- Create an exciting event that facilitates cross-pollination between cultural organizations and strengthens and invigorates the San Diego Visual Art Scene.
- Broaden the audience of the visual arts in San Diego by gaining national attention to the competition through a dedicated media campaign.
- Promote the vision of the future role that the visual arts will play in the San Diego community as lively, thriving, positive and empowering.
- Expand the infrastructure of spokespeople/art celebrities who can bring awareness to San Diego and perform as role models for our student artists.

#### [San Diego Visual Arts Network](#)

2487 Montgomery Avenue, Cardiff by the Sea, CA 92007 [info@sdvisualarts.net](mailto:info@sdvisualarts.net) 760.943.0148 Public Charity 501 (c) 3 EIN #20-5910283

## Doug Simay: [Simayspace](#)

The San Diego Art Prize nominating committee gave me a list of 17 artists and turned me loose to create one exhibition showcasing all of them at Simayspace, the gallery of the Art Academy of San Diego. After studio visits - I am impressed by the degree of intention, perseverance, and clarity these artists show in their individual work.

Here are some buzz lines to tempt you with the art being exhibited. If nothing else the breadth of offerings will be evident:

As a morning ritual, **Brian Dick** uses at-hand materials to quick fashion sci-fi rag-doll sculptures.

The steel sculpture of **Matt Devine** is cleanly forged and carries forward the modernism of Barbara Hepworth and George Rickey.

The integument of **Lael Corbin's** assemblaged and manufactured sculpture is cast gelatin.

**Ben Lavender** takes steel and makes recognizable things.

**Jason Sherry** makes things, collages found stuff, hand processes anything and does sculpture, too.

**Tristan Shone** makes machines that can be the engines for music. They are made to last "forever."

**Alida Cervantes** has so much familiarity with making self portraits that she joyously infects the viewer's intellect with questions of culture and privilege.

**Chris Ferreria** does a lot of things. Most are too big to put in this gallery. Thanks be he has some more intimately scaled photographs to draw at us emotionally.

**Pamela Jaeger** comes from an interest in fashion design and a fondness for Renaissance art. Think of that when viewing her sci-fi, urban surreal, neo-gothic paintings.

**Bradley Streeper** has great fondness for mid 20th century Minimalist painters like Robert Ryman and Brice Marden. His abstract paintings are celestial and terrestrial at the same time.

**Allison Wiese** studies aspects of everything, finds the poetry that links them, and then learns of the tools to express them (aspects of everything).

**Shannon Spanhake** is smart, well educated – and subversive. I don't know what's coming.

**Nina Waisman** is interested in sound and time; the "shapes" of sound. We are showing elegant, embossed "soundprints".

**Andy Howell** - his life experience in "fathering" the skateboarder visual culture is a testament to the influence of his graphic, warped, action figures.

**Nina Karavasiles** makes public art. In this exhibition she reflects on her experience of her work.

**Tania Candiani** (on the road for the last months) will be in this exhibition.

**Camilo Ontiveros'** interests are in the theatrics of regional poetics.

The visual and conceptual harmonics of this exhibition should be remarkable. These artists have so encouraged me to see how healthy our artistic community is.

[Doug Simay](#), former curator of Simayspace and currently on the board of the Oceanside Museum of Art, is a fixture of the San Diego Visual Art scene. He was known for the excellence of his shows at Simayspace, his support for contemporary local artist (he has been collecting for more than 30 years), and as the founding father of the [SD Art Academy](#) (a non-accredited studio art school in Northpark) . He makes a [pick of his favorite exhibitions](#) on his monthly tip to Los Angeles which are published on the Simayspace website and linked to SDVAN. The description "passionately energetic and verbal" sums up Doug perfectly.



## Tania Candiani

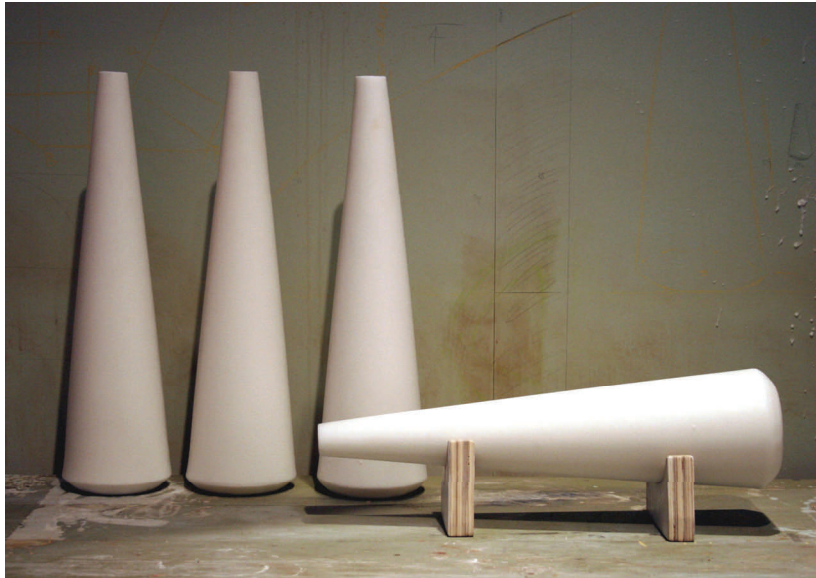
Tania Candiani's inspiration can come from real sources like old magazines of the 1950s and 60s and although much of her work is sewn with detachable parts and geometric precision, she is an accomplished photographer as well. The work is conceptually based and many layered. This is a self-taught artist but an avid reader who has a broad base of references in her work.



## Alida Cervantes

Alida Cervantes is examining the hierarchies of her own society through a series of images of housekeepers who have worked for her families. She creates exceptional portraits, which tie together these workers while separating them from us. They are affectionate although they show the affects of age and hard work and are revealed as





## Lael Corbin

Lael Corbin is part of the adjunct faculty of Point Loma Nazarene University where he oversees the Art Department's shops and facilities. You can tell he loves found objects and the way they can be altered and assembled as his installations and sculpture use mixed media to reflect his current passion. He currently teaches 3-D Design and is in his final year as a M.F.A. Candidate at SDSU.



## Matt Devine

Matt Devine is a self-declared Minimalist influenced by the mid-century design icon Isamu Noguchi as well as Alexander Calder, Barbara Hepworth and Richard Serra. Matt uses steel, copper and bronze to make sculptures with a strong but quiet presence and an elegance that is very powerful.





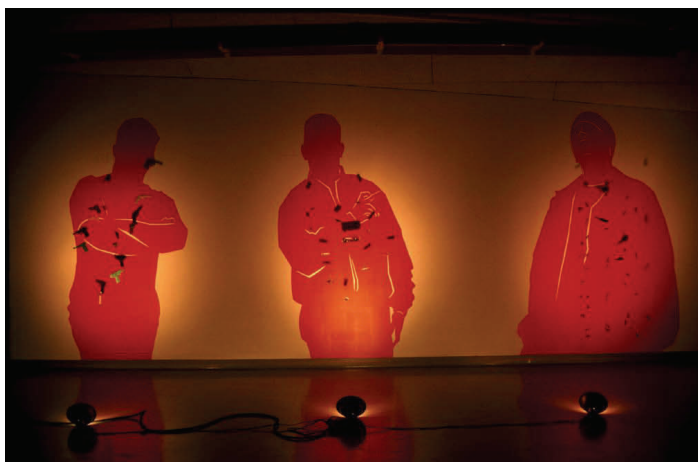
## Brian Dick

Brian Dick has survived his name and is now a teacher and artist who really likes comic books and movies. He thinks David Collier is a genius. His favorite color is red. He loves thrift store finds especially super-8 movies and old records children's, Hawaiian, old-time radio, homemade records, really any kind of oddball record. He owns an old house. He works a lot and has a very cool girlfriend. His animated videos are way cool and make you laugh.



## Christopher N. Ferreria

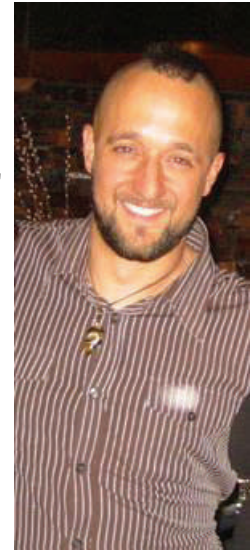
Christopher N. Ferreria's creative practice is not formal but instead examines relationships between objects, spaces, the audience and himself as the artist. There are chance encounters and interactions, which are site specific and southeast San Diego remains the backdrop for much of his work. His Filipino heritage embodies the cultural schizophrenia between the drive of self-determination and the comfort of colonial mentality. Ferreria's practice draws upon these difficult, and many times conflicted, intersections of geography, history, culture, and politics expressed through the subjects of cockfights and the car and gang cultures of his hometown ghetto and the military experiences of his father.





## Andy Howell

Andy Howell takes iconic street language of graffiti and twists and turns it into forced and raised perspectives reminiscent more of Degas' circus imagery and less of 'street' language. His canvases combine the calligraphic language of the rhythm of words as well as high and absurd color contrast through the use of a whip-lash electric organic line. The work is based on representation but evolves into shape and color and line, which leads us out of the canvas and into an energized world of action. Andy's work is read, like Gauguin's, from one direction to another, like a text. This artist is a champion of the streets but reads like immortal French School artist of the turn of the last Century.



## Pamela Jaeger

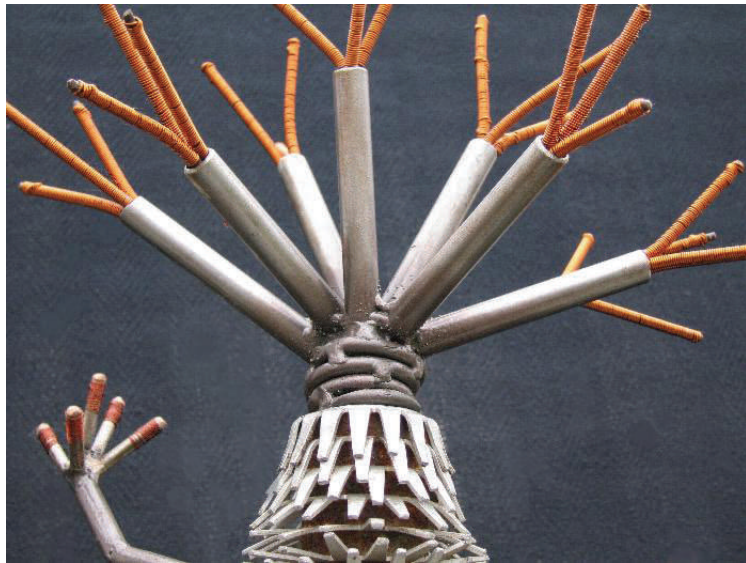
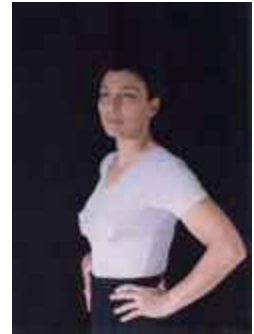
Pamela Jaeger is described by Robert Pincus as making works that are "... enchanted and a touch unnerving." We see a combination storybook illustration, surrealism and folk painting. "My own work can turn into a little world that doesn't exist," she says. "Storytelling is a big part of what I do," she explains. "I think of my art as a way of looking through windows – seeing things you might not want to see." But the colors and forms are so sweet and attractive that they candy coat our experience of her work.





## [Nina Karavasiles](#)

[Nina Waisman](#) mines the time and space between events and forms, considering what is at stake as technology advances. Will the need to navigate our evermore minutely mapped world lead to increased expressivity, increased constraint, or something in between? As visitors walk along a path in one of her installations, their footsteps are amplified and played back with increasing temporal delay. Counter to this steady temporal delay, the walkers' footsteps shuttle unpredictably back and forth in space. This double mis-alignment of the body's natural "sound envelope" evokes playful, meditative and at times wary responses - some visitors feel stalked by their own technologically displaced footsteps. Waisman's work ranges from interactive sound-and-sculpture installations to blind-embossed prints of weaponry morphing into modernist form.



## [Ben Lavender](#)

[Ben Lavender](#) creates works of art varying from steel and concrete sculpture, paintings and mixed media relief's, to custom furniture and woodworking. Often found working with several mediums simultaneously, it is his sensitivity to materials and attention to detail which sets these works apart. His inspiration comes from the similarity among the natural forces of growth and erosion, He utilizes raw industrial materials to mimic nature with astonishing results.

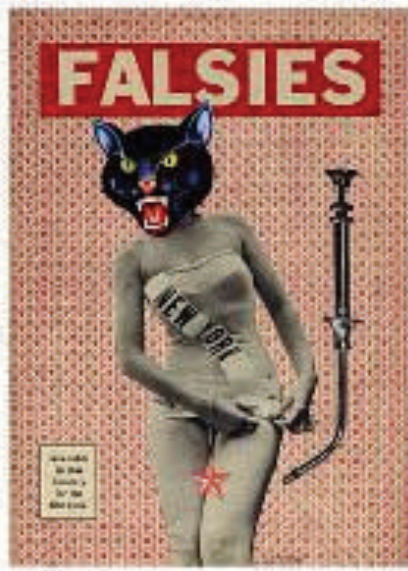
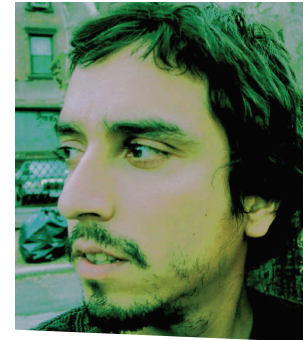






## Camilo Ontiveros

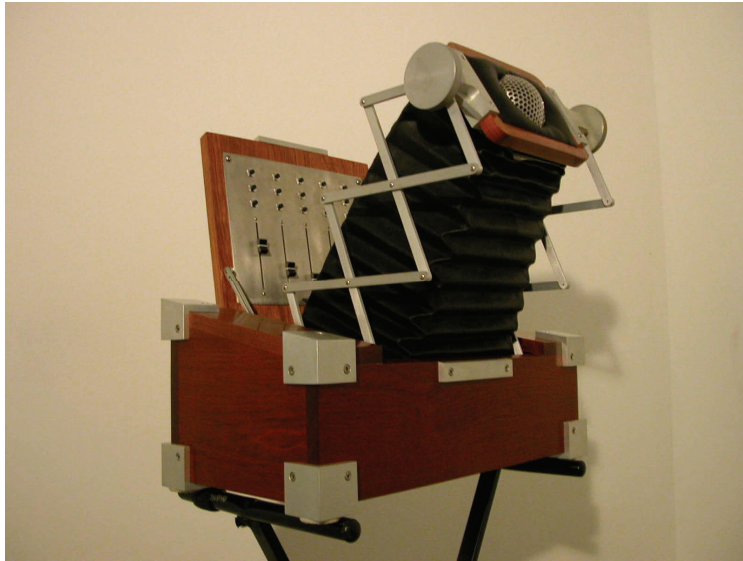
Camilo Ontiveros, brought "Exchange/ Alteration" to SD from Tijuana, a project in collaboration with Mélanie Badalato, where the two altered participants' clothes on the spot. Both these artist are part of a process of change they want to bring about by being part of the dialogue about their community. In fact community is so strongly a part of their lives that they actually remove themselves to a certain extent from the individual "star" system that has been established for high-end art market. This is the gentler side of art activism where art is used to bring awareness to social issues many times



## Jason Sherry

Jason Sherry is concerned with the real and the unreal. "I am concerned with presenting the absurdity of human history and culture by assembling disparate objects and images into new objects..." There is humor but also an underlying meaning in these collaged works whether paper, photographic, mechanical or mixed media. These are totally obsession works, which flow from the artists in a steam of conscious and unconscious narrative.





## Tristan Shone

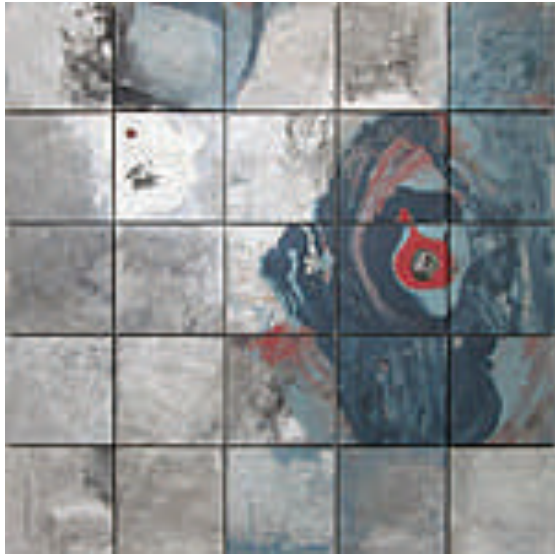
Tristan Shone uses layering of differently guitars, keyboard, and electronic percussion to create the sound that is the justification for the shapes of his sculptures. Just as the music has melody and discordance, the structures he forms have flow and angle. This contrast of mechanical and emotional is confident, intense, and impressive.



## Shannon Spanhake

Shannon Spanhake' works to transform this familiar, normal, boring everyday into an uncanny and absurd space that can be found somewhere behind reality and in front of real-life. Her practice relies on the possibilities and limitations of a site. She explores then breaks this down through re-figuration to reveal the cracks, tensions, relief, and supports, of a structure through a subversive gesture, a tangible hack of the physical world. In *The Ear of the Pollo*, a chicken adorned in a Mexican flag and wired with audio transmitters crossed the US/Mexico border acting as a diplomat and an avatar for those in Mexico who couldn't cross with her. In *A Tijuana Garden*, gardens were planted in potholes throughout the city. She practices and teaches a notion of engineering *with* society as opposed to *for* it. However, she attempts to take an additional step in her work by engineering with society to challenge ways in which society is regulated.





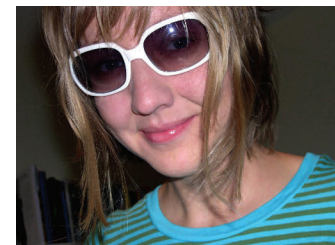
## Brad Streeper

Brad Streeper uses a painting process that is intuitive, and involves unconventional manipulation of paint, glue, gesso and ink. Incompatible materials are mixed, layered and distressed using tools like T-shirts and hammers. Despite the intuitive nature of his process, the end product often references personal interests beyond visual arts. From molecular biology to barren lunar landscapes, he finds himself drawn to the similarities between the micro and macro worlds.



## Nina Waisman

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## Allison Wiese

Allison Wiese is an interdisciplinary artist who makes sculptures, installations, sound works and architectural interventions.. Wiese learned to walk and talk in Brooklyn, drive in southern California and everything else important in Texas. Her work makes poetry with the ready-to-hand, altering spaces through christening and commemoration. Wiese's projects often employ the diversion of commodities or language through space and time. She recently negotiated a large awning off an empty office tower in downtown Houston, for instance, and installed it, capsized, on the floor of a tiny residentially-scaled gallery. She has also developed a site-specific solar audio work for the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego.





## [San Diego Visual Arts Network](#)

SDVAN is a database of information produced to improve the clarity, accuracy and sophistication of discourse about San Diego's artistic and cultural life and is dedicated to the idea that the Visual Arts are a vital part of the health of our city. SDVAN hosts a free interactive directory (over 1600 resources listed) and an events

calendar covering all San Diego regions including Baja Norte with an opportunity section, gossip column and the SmART Collector feature to help take the mystery out of buying art. SDVAN is the proud non-profit sponsor of the SD Art Prize. This is the only site designed exclusively for the San Diego region and the Visual Arts and is one of the most technically advanced sites of this kind in the country. SDVAN currently get 4-5000 unique visitors per month and over one million hits a year.



## THE ESPRESSO

### [Espresso](#)

San Diego's Coffeehouse and Café Newspaper since 1992. with the goal is to put important news and information into the hands of people who can use it and to provoke dialogue - in coffee houses and elsewhere. They strive to be a kind of continuing education for cafe society by providing our readers with information they can use to live better, richer and more productive lives. ESPRESSO is motivated by a vision of America in which more freedom, justice, opportunity and material progress are available to everyone, and they believe that the founding principles of the United States are the best pathway to that vision.

Our thanks to **Jason Sherry** for his graphic design and **John Ripppo** at Espresso for creating our first [mini catalog](#) for the New Contemporaries I, which was published as a two page spread in the weekly .



[SanDiegoArtists.com](#) Founded in April 2000 with the goal of providing a spotlight for emerging and established local artists. This site introduces new artist to the community via an e-mail newsletter and interviews on ART ROCKS internet radio.

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