

PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Patricia Frischer, <u>patricia@sdvisualarts.net</u> 760.943.0148



SD ART PRIZE: New Contemporaries II 2009 Thurs, February 19, 2009 – Sat. March 21, 2009 Emerging Artists nominated for the SD Art Prize 2009 Presented by the <u>San Diego Visual Arts Network</u> and <u>Noel-Baza Fine Art</u> Public opening Kettner Night, Friday, March 13, 6 to 9 pm 2165 India Street - San Diego, CA 92101 Gallery Hours: 11-6 Tuesday-Thursday, 11-8 Friday and Sat. closed Sun, Mon Info: Patricia Frischer 760.943.0148 or noel-baza@cox.net 619.876.4160

Emerging Artists: <u>David Adey</u>, <u>Tania Alcala</u>, <u>Michele Guieu</u>, <u>Keikichi Honna</u>, <u>Omar Pimienta</u>, <u>Daniel</u> <u>Ruanova</u>, <u>Marisol Rendon</u>, <u>Tara Smith</u>, <u>Matt Stallings</u>, <u>K.V. Tomney</u>, <u>Jen Trute</u>, <u>Gustabo Velasquez</u>, <u>Yuransky</u>

The <u>SD ART PRIZE</u>, in its third year, is proud to present thirteen local emerging artists chosen by art professionals and leading local artists. These **New Contemporary** Artists will be exhibited as a group from Thurs. Feb 19 to Sat. March 21 at <u>Noel-Baza Fine Art</u>. The catalog for <u>New Contemporaries II 2009</u> gives illustrations and biographical material about all the artists. .But wait, there's more.....these artists are eligible to be chosen by **Kim MacConnel** or **Richard Allen Morris**, the 2009 SD Art Prize **established** artist recipients, for a mentored show at the L-Street Gallery of the Omni Hotel later in the year. ALL emerging artists in the SD region are eligible to be chosen by the established artist recipients of this season including but not limited to nominated artists in this and previous New Contemporaries exhibitions. And even more, the public is invited to a reception for these artists on March 13 from 6 to 9 pm.

The 2009 nominating committee, which changes yearly, consists of **SD Art Prize recipients for the previous year** Lael Corbin, Allison Weise, Pamela Jaegar, Eleanor Antin, Marcos Ramiriz (Erre), Roman de Salvo, writers for the **SD Art Prize Art Notes** Kevin Freitas, Mark Murphy, Betti-Sue Hertz, Lucia Sanroman, Erika Torri, Doug Simay, Larry Poteet, Honorary Hosts Vivian Lim and Joe Wong, Patti and Coop Cooprider, and the **SD Art Prize committee**: Ann Berchtold, Patricia Frischer.



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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.

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 1300 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 3-4000 unique visitors per month and over one million hits a year.

<u>Noel-Baza Fine Art</u>: Noel-Baza Fine Art and India Street Gallery are located in the art and design district of San Diego's vibrant and historic Little Italy. With excellent restaurants, music clubs, galleries, furniture and design showrooms, the area is one of the most popular destinations for visitors and locals to walk, shop and dine all within a few blocks of San Diego Bay's beautiful waterfront. A lifetime spent working in the art world, in both commercial and non-profit, has led to the creation of this gallery specializing in original artwork of the highest quality and an ever-changing selection of prints and drawings by some of the art worlds most important names. Noel-Baza Fine Art shows primarily original paintings and sculpture by living mid-career artists and original prints and drawings by acknowledged 20th century masters.

<u>SanDiegoArtists.com</u>: 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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