

Exhibition: Building the Art House: Artworkers in Southeast SF

Dates: May 4-November 3, 2017

Location: Rosenberg Library, City College of San Francisco
50 Phelan Ave, San Francisco, CA 94112

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Exhibition: Building the Art House

Can we build a shared cultural life in Southeast San Francisco? Building the Art House answers that question with a resounding yes! And offers a compelling example of how this might look. A multigenerational roster of artists brings this swathe of working class San Francisco to life in the Rosenberg Library at City College of San Francisco. Building the Art House assembles three exhibitions that explore visual art, gardening, and performance. Work comes from the Bayview-Hunters Point, Portola, Excelsior, Visitacion Valley and Ingleside districts. Building the Art House gives insight into the cultural production and gathering places that few outside the neighborhoods are aware of.

At the edge of Southeast San Francisco, City College stands as a resilient emblem of survival in a fast changing city. This convergence of exhibitions and programs at City College invites artists to identify with other cultural producers of Southeast SF. This is an opportunity to explore the regional history and possible future of this vibrant corner of the City. The vision for Building the Art House grew out of the Moving Art House Project, a mobile cultural space created by Kate Connell and Oscar Melara ([Book and Wheel Works](#)) in Southeast SF in 2015. In this series, guest curator Emma Spertus brings a new perspective and complementary artists to Book and Wheel's Southeast SF expertise and extensive creative partnerships.

In addition to the exhibitions on display during the spring and fall 2017 semesters, Building the Art House will include an art fair, a tour, a publication and an artists' panel in fall 2017.

Exhibitions:

Bling Blang: You Bring a Hammer, I'll Bring a Nail: Artworkers in Southeast SF

Bling Blang fills the Madeleine Haas Russell Gallery on the 2nd floor of the Rosenberg Library. This exhibition brings together a multigenerational roster of visual and video artists working in all media. Artists who have home studios, studios in industrial buildings, or are artworkers in Southeast SF contribute their sketchbooks, linocuts, oil paintings, mural art, textiles, architectural models and public art proposals, performative screen prints, feathered words, neon sculpture, video, and a digital "sampler" that translates text messages into cross stitch. Exhibited side by side are artists who are long-time residents of Southeast SF and new additions to the area.

Participating Artists in Bling Blang

Adam Weiss	Diane Olivier	Micholiano Forks
Anne Seemen	Emory Douglas	Nancy Hom
Andrew Kleindolph	Estelle Akamine	Neo Ve'ave'a
Anthony Ryan*	Floyd Wallace	Phillip Hua*
Arthur Koch	Keith Ferris	Refa One
Andy Vogt*	Juan Fuentes	Ron Moultrie Saunders
Caitlyn Galloway	Lisa Magruder	Sarah M. Newton
Carey Lin*	Mark Myers	Sarah Smith*
Cecilia Peña-Govea	Matt Christenson	Kate Connell
Charles Dabo	Mel Prest	Oscar Melara
Charlene Tan	Nathan Watson	

*These artists also contributed commissioned site specific backdrops for the exhibition to hang on top of or sit upon.

Digging In: Our Green Spaces

A collaboration with Youth Art Exchange (YAX), this exhibition will include youth artists photographic representations and artful interpretations of green spaces in the Southeast region of the city. The Visitacion Valley Greenway and the Bayview's Quesada Garden and the Alemany Gardens are among those represented. The Southeast is home to a multitude of green spaces: community efforts created against all odds, epic organizing efforts and labors of love. They are vital centers of community life. Historically, Southeast neighborhoods have been the site of the City's produce and cut flower production, home to truck gardens, greenhouses and windmills.

Cutting the Rug: Performance in Southeast SF

A collaboration with the CCSF Journalism Department, student journalists display their photographs depicting a range of musical and theatrical entertainment in grassroots neighborhood venues. Where else in the city can you hear live Banda music, old school soul and Hawaiian music? Photographs document performances at the Italian American Social Club in the Excelsior, Public Glass and the Bayview Opera House, 7 Mile House in Visitacion Valley and El Toro in the Portola District, among other sites. Music performed ranges from Banda to rock to soul and more. Invited community photographers are included.

Guest Curator Emma Spertus founded Real Time & Space, a collective studio and residency program in Oakland that serves as a hub for the Bay Area arts community. Currently, her work is on view at 2214 in Berkeley. Her work has been exhibited at CCA Wattis Institute of Contemporary Art, White Columns, The Lab, Headlands Center for the Arts, Romer Young Gallery, Kala Art Institute, and Dorsky Gallery among others. She has served as project manager at Intersection for the Arts and works as a curator of public art in temporary spaces in San Francisco under the name Project O. Project O has most recently created programming for the Hayes Valley Art Works.

Curator of the City College Library Exhibition Program, Kate Connell, founded the program in 1999. Since then she has curated over a hundred exhibitions at the Rosenberg and other City College Libraries. Connell began her career at the Galería de la Raza as assistant curator and artist in residence. As co-founder of Book and Wheel Works with Oscar Melara, she has created public art projects in southeast San Francisco, supported by The Creative Work Fund, Soex/Alternative Exposure, San Francisco Arts Commission, Zellerbach and Fleishhacker Foundations among others. Book and Wheel was a commissioned artist of the 11th Havana Biennial and recently featured on the cover of Race, Poverty and the Environment.