



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 12, 2005

RECORD

2005 Alumni Exhibition, Art Department

January 20-February 24, 2005

Opening Reception: Thursday, January 20, 5-7pm

Seattle, WA - A document often informs us as to what is real and often provides a record by which to interpret an event. Cornish College's 2005 Alumni Show, RECORD, is focused on artists who engage with documents, originals or the process of documentation in their work.

RECORD seeks to reveal the varied layers of truth discovered while constructing or reconstructing events, memories and myths. Referencing an original event within a work provides an opportunity to look closer at the many ways we choose to preserve the past and decipher truth. Intentional or unintentional transgressions, mythological storytelling, misspoken truths and reality television are just some of the ways in which our culture is constantly producing new versions of the real.

The show reflects the diverse ways in which artists produce cultural fact by examining how artists choose to use the original in their work, as an object in itself, as a reference point, the Truth, or simply as one version of an original event.

While Neal Bashor engages the age-old trickery of trompe l'oeil, James Schaffer enlists satellite images and abstract foregrounds to place the viewer in uncomfortably familiar places. "I painted the map-like abstracts intuitively after a protracted study of maps and their language and a theoretical and critical study of globalization," Schaffer states. "At the forefront were issues of boundary and questions about rupture, center/periphery, sovereignty, and empire."

Rhonda Dee ventures far beneath the surface of a family home video in order to reveal a Truth that nobody else is willing to witness. And Christine Sandifur utilizes pages from her maternal grandmother's diary in an effort to maintain their importance as time speeds up. "This is a tribute to her record keeping. My concept was to combine her distinctive handwriting with my drawings, and print them as etchings. In the beginning I was thinking of the shape the writing makes, but as I read each entry, the content has taken on importance – an account of daily life as seen through the eyes of a small town housewife, mother of 3, grandmother of 7, and great grandmother of 15."

RECORD is the first annual alumni exhibition taking place in the Cornish Gallery, First Floor, Main Campus Center, curated by Craig Snyder, Gallery and Exhibitions Coordinator.

Participating artists are:

Neal Bashor '00
Molly Norris Curtis '01
Rhonda Dee Pritchett '91
Dawn Cerny '02
Julia Gfrörer '04
Kate Greiner '00
David Herbert '00
Caroline Kapp '00
Max Keene '02
Rich Lehl '93
Paul McKee '00
Dennis Raines '01
Christine Sandifur '94
James Schaffer '99
Michelle Sciumbato '04
Justin Simcik '03
Saundra Valencia '99

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100 Lenora Street, Seattle

Hours: Monday- Friday, 10am – 4 pm

Free and open to the public.

Information: 206.726.5011

Images available upon request.

ABOUT CORNISH COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

Cornish College of the Arts is the premier, accredited arts college in the Northwest, inspiring the highest standards of artistic and academic excellence. Founded in 1914 by Nellie Cornish, Cornish College is the only private, accredited college in the region offering baccalaureate degrees in visual and performing arts. Cornish College offers a Bachelor of Music and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in art, dance, design, theater and performance production. Cornish College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

Over the years, Cornish has hosted a parade of important artists in the roles of students, teachers or as visiting artists-in-residence, including John Cage, Merce Cunningham, Martha Graham, Ping Chong, Kenny Werner, Obo Addy, Mark Morris, Meredith Monk, Rinde Eckert, Bebe Miller, Ruth St. Denis, Ted Shawn, Robin Holcomb, Chet Huntley, Syvilla Fort, Ralph Towner, Thornton Wilder, Lou Harrison, Bill Frisell, Morris Graves, Jane Ira Bloom, Kraig Patterson, Musicians Accord, Bun Ching Lam, Brendan Fraser, Myra Melford, Sharon Isbin, Joanne Brackeen, Oliver Lake, California Ear Unit, Colorado Quartet, and Gary Peacock, among others.

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