



CONTACT

Maureen Cappon-Javey

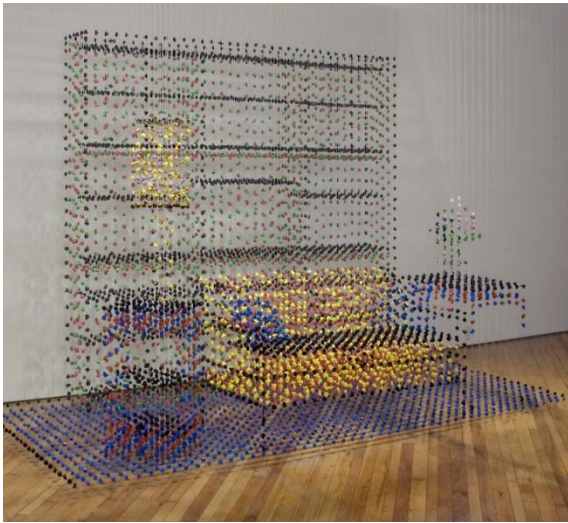
408.283.8155

maureen@sjica.org

San Jose ICA Invites You Inside The Painted Room

Chris Dorosz' Life-Size Installation Floats New View of Sculpture

SAN JOSE, Calif – The San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) is excited to present *The Painted Room*, a visually stimulating installation by San Francisco-based artist, Chris Dorosz. The exhibition runs from November 8th, 2008 through January 10th, 2009 in the ICA's Focus Gallery. An opening reception will be held on Friday, November 7th from 6pm to 8pm.



The Painted Room creates the illusion of a life-size living room suspended in space that oscillates between representation and abstraction. Comprised of colorful splotches of paint that cling to clear hanging monofilament, this floating sculpture represents Dorosz' interest in the analogous properties of paint and the digital pixel in an age that is lured by the mysteries of virtual reality. Up close, the viewer is able to see the individual components of paint, but cannot comprehend the overall imagery. However, with distance, the paint chips dissolve into a kind of 3-D pointillist sculpture consisting of a couch, tables, lamps, and wall shelves.

Chris Dorosz, *The Painted Room*, 2007, acrylic paint on monofilament, dimensions variable. Image courtesy of the Artist.

“In addition to the visual treat, gallery visitors will have fun becoming a part of the work by simply walking around the space,” notes Cathy Kimball, ICA Executive Director and Chief Curator. “Moving around the piece, you appear as sliced fragments through the vertical interruptions of the the hanging paint splotches to other viewers on the opposite sides, creating apparitions of a human presence within the room.”

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San Jose ICA 560 S. First Street, San Jose, CA 95113 (408)283-8155 www.sjica.org

Canadian-born Dorosz maintains a studio practice in San Francisco and is a full-time instructor at the Academy of Art University. Dorosz graduated with an MFA from the Nova Scotia College of Art & Design in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and a BFA from Concordia University in Montreal, Quebec. In 2003 he won the Royal Bank of Canada's New Painting competition. His work is in public and private collections throughout The United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom.

Also at the ICA

The ICA is presenting a concurrent exhibition by internationally acclaimed sculptor Manuel Neri. *The Figure in Relief* is a comprehensive collection of Neri's painted sculptures, maquettes and works on paper created during the past 25 years. This exclusive Bay Area presentation of Manuel Neri's *The Figure in Relief* runs from November 8th through January 17th in the ICA's Main Gallery. A monograph published by Hudson Hills Press and featuring text by Maxwell Anderson, Bruce Guenther, and Bruce Nixon, accompanies the exhibition. An opening reception and catalogue signing by the Artist will be held at the ICA

on November 7th from 6pm to 8pm. On November 13th at 7pm the ICA's monthly art discussion forum, *Talking Art* will address Neri's 25-year teaching career at UC Davis and the influence he's had on hundreds of artists. The session is entitled *Figuratively Speaking: Tracing the Influence of a Teacher, a Program, A Movement and a Place*, and the panel includes Bay Area artists Robert Brady, Christopher Brown and Fred Snyder.



Manuel Neri, *Arcos de Geso* (Cast 4/4), Bronze, Oil-based pigments, 79x110.5x13 inches. Image courtesy of the Artist and Hackett-Freedman Gallery, SF, Photograph: M. Lee Fatherree.

The San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) is an energetic art space located in downtown San Jose dedicated to making contemporary art accessible and exciting to audiences of all ages and backgrounds. Exhibitions are presented in three galleries that showcase the most current, relevant and often challenging art from the region, the nation and the world. The ICA is activated by opening receptions, South First Friday gallery walks, nighttime projections in the front windows, panel discussions, printmaking workshops, brown bag lunches and impromptu conversations in the galleries. Hours of operation: Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Saturday, 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.; closed Sunday and Monday. Admission is always free.

The San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art gratefully acknowledges additional support from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the City of San Jose, the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Arts Council Silicon Valley, the Adobe Foundation Fund, Silicon Valley Community Foundation, and the members of the ICA.

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