



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SMUD EXHIBITION FEATURES PORTRAITS BY SACRAMENTO AREA ARTISTS

- DATE:** April 13, 2010
- CONTACT:** Lorrie Kempf (916) 808-3977, e-mail: lkempf@cityofsacramento.org
- WHAT:** SMUD (Sacramento Metropolitan Utility District) Art Exhibition features portraits by Sacramento area artists
- WHERE:** SMUD, 6301 S Street (near 65th Street), Sacramento, CA
- WHEN:** April 16 – June 1, 2010
Reception: Thursday May 13, 2010
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Gallery hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Cost: Free

Sacramento, CA—*About Face: An Exhibition of Portraits by Sacramento Area Artists*, opens at the SMUD Art Gallery, 6301 S Street, Sacramento on Monday, April 16, 2010. The public is invited to meet the artists at a FREE reception on Thursday, May 13, 2010, from 4 to 6 p.m.

The exhibition includes paintings, drawings, and mixed media works by 11 area artists: Frank Ordaz, Debbie Gualco, Kara Castro, Marsha Mobley Kilian, Aaron Johnson, Fred Ontiveros, Sam Liberman, Patris, Scott Martin, Cherie Hacker and Stefani Thomas

The exhibition illustrates the many different approaches, styles and techniques artists may use to create a portrait.

Trained in illustration, Frank Ordaz paints in a realistic and narrative style that challenges the viewer to experience the subject matter as if they were there. The subject of his oil painting titled “Sam Hyde Harris”, looks as though he is alive and breathing. Similar in approach, Kara Castro’s series of paintings titled “Spinning I, II, and III”, watercolors of a little girl in various stages of a twirl, are painted in a tight realism style seldom seen in watercolors.

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In contrast, artists Cherie Hacker and Stefani Thomas combine their self-portraits into one -- ½ of the portrait is Hacker and ½ of it is Thomas –an unconventional process. Hacker may begin a portrait and mail it to Thomas to complete or vice versa. The exhibition includes 5 in a series of 12 portraits the artists created together, each of which echoes the time of year they were created.

The Art in Public Places Program was established by the City and County of Sacramento to provide visual art experiences in public locations through a percent-for-art program which reserves a portion of construction dollars from City, County or Redevelopment projects for public art.

The SMUD Art Gallery is a partnership between the Sacramento Municipal Utility District and the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission with additional funding from the City and County of Sacramento.

The Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission is devoted to supporting, promoting and advocating for the arts in the region. For further information on programs and opportunities through the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission go to: www.sacmetroarts.org. SMAC is funded by the City and County of Sacramento.

AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW: Lorrie Kempf, Art in Public Places Program Assistant.

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