

NEWS

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April 30 to June 4, 2011

Reconstructed World

Sandow Birk, Keith Cottingham, Kota Ezawa, Al Farrow, Samara Halperin, Liz Hickok, leonardogillesfleur, Elyse Pignolet, and Tracey Snelling

GATEHOUSE GALLERY HOURS: *Wednesday – Saturday, 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM.*
Visit www.dirosaart.org for information about tours of di Rosa.

OPENING RECEPTION: Saturday, April 30, 2011, 6 – 8 PM
Members' Preview 5 – 6 PM

OFFSITE SPAD DEBUT: Friday, May 13, 7 – 10 PM

ARTIST TALK: Thursday, May 26, 7 PM

NAPA, CA – **di Rosa** is pleased to present a new exhibition that examines deeper meanings found in the everyday. *Reconstructed World* focuses on the work of artists who draw viewers into complex narrative tableaux through restaging everyday sites, objects, and stories. Projects in the exhibition utilize a range of media that include animated video, assemblage, constructed photographs, and installation to evoke realities beneath the perceived surface of the world around us.

Rather than striving for perfect realism or objective documentation, the artworks in *Reconstructed World* side-step traditional representation for an uncanny and ultimately affective experience. Through often-surprising, alternative constructions of reality, the exhibition asks viewers to stop and consider their relationships with each other, the places they live and the greater world around them. In parts humorous, dark, poetic, playful, and even perplexing, the exhibition provides a useful space for reconsidering daily life.

Artists such as **Tracey Snelling**, **Al Farrow**, and **Liz Hickok** use reconstruction to stir up memories as well as debate. Snelling's mysterious spaces evoke forgotten film sets and journeys through the American landscape, while Farrow's models of religious structures ask us to reflect on the relationship between religion and conflict. Hickok considers the



(detail) Al Farrow, *The Spine and Tooth of Santo Guerro*, 2007, bullets, guns, glass, shot, steel, bone. Photo by Jock McDonald

fragility and transitory nature of human endeavors through her remarkable reconstructions of cities in Jell-O.

Keith Cottingham presents ethereal new works from his ongoing series of digitally-constructed images that challenge the authority of the photograph itself. Experimental filmmaker **Samara Halperin** presents painstakingly constructed miniature film sets of Coney Island, along with videos that evoke a longing for a disappearing past. Works by **Kota Ezawa** bring us into dialogue with collective memory by transforming and reconsidering familiar images from the media, popular films and history.

Sandow Birk and **Elyse Pignolet** collaborate on a project that approaches urban life as seen through peepholes in the museum wall. Another duo, **leonardogillesfleur** explore the struggle between individual and collaborative action through their double front-ended, remade Fiat.



leonardogillesfleur, *Irreconcilable Differences 3, FITO*, 2006–10; transformed 1976 FIAT 600. Courtesy of the artist and Catharine Clark Gallery, SF.

SAN PABLO ARTS DISTRICT FUND (SPAD) PARTNERSHIP

di Rosa will present a selection of video works by artists in *Reconstructed World* at SPAD's unique storefront exhibition space at 5512 San Pablo Avenue in Oakland, CA. Projected onto the window of a vacant storefront, these contemporary video works will be visible every evening after dark to passersby and drivers along San Pablo Avenue. Furthering di Rosa's commitment to the art and artists of Northern California, this partnership expands the ability to introduce audiences around the region to new art. The projections will debut on Friday, May 13 from 7pm-10pm with a reception and literary readings.

SPAD is dedicated to promoting art while facilitating urban development in the Golden Gate District in North Oakland. Converting abandoned storefronts in long-neglected neighborhoods into functional, alternative art galleries, SPAD confronts inner-city blight and strengthens community relations, while showcasing cutting-edge art. Visit their website at <http://www.sanpabloarts.org/>

ABOUT DI ROSA

Located on 217 extraordinarily beautiful acres in the Carneros Region of southern Napa Valley, di Rosa is a place that provokes the imagination and artistic spirit of our time in an extraordinary landscape, through celebration of the art and artists of the Bay Area. The renowned di Rosa collection covers more than half a century of work from many noted and distinguished artists, attracting thousands of visitors annually for exhibitions, tours, lectures, and family events. Visit the website at <http://www.dirosaart.org>

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