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Santa Fe Community College Art Exhibition

"Hell and Heaven"

Opening Reception for "Hell" on Thursday, August 25

The exhibit runs Aug. 25 to Sept. 29, 2011, in SFCC's Visual Arts Gallery

The Opening Reception for "Heaven" on Thursday, September 15

SANTA FE, NM — Santa Fe Community College's School of Arts and Design Visual Arts Gallery presents "Hell and Heaven," a two-part show curated by David Solomon. The show opens on Thursday, August 25, at 5:00 p.m. The exhibitions examine the artists' internal ideas of Hell and Heaven in today's uncertain times. Mounted in two consecutive phases, Hell is presented first to convey the progression from dark to light.

- "Hell" runs from Thursday, Aug. 25 through Friday, Sept. 9, 2011. The opening reception is on Thursday, Aug. 25, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- "Heaven" runs from Sept. 15 through Sept. 29, 2011. The opening reception is on Thursday, Sept. 15, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Curator David Solomon's intent is to consider in this time of political, social, environmental and economic disruption what the artists' personal conceptions of Hell and Heaven are.

"I came up with the curatorial concept as a question to the inner state of mind. Rather than Hell and Heaven being religious terms, I wanted them to be personal terms within the artists' belief systems regarding themselves and their place in the world, thus considering the state of the world at large. It is my own questions and wonderings that create the subject for themed shows that I curate. I want to know how others view these subjects," said Solomon. "A few of the artists came to me and said that they did not believe in heaven and hell in a traditional sense and they therefore had to deeply question what those concepts *do* mean to themselves as artists. That is exactly what I wanted."

Solomon has worked previously with many of the participating artists; a few new artists are included for each additional show. As a curator, he values the collaborative nature of working with artists, and seeing how they affect each other and their respective work.

“They push the work harder knowing they are showing with someone whose work they admire. It brings the creative community together,” said Solomon.

“Hell and Heaven” Participating Artists:

Leslie Ayers , Susanna Carlisle/Bruce Hamilton, Victoria Carlson, Jennifer Chenoweth, Chris Collins, Jamie Hamilton, Chace Haynes, Tim Jag, Ira Kusnetzky, Rocky Lewycky, Kelly Morris Jonathan Morse, Kelly Morris, Lauren Oliver, M. Lisa Phipps, Molly Wagoner, Tuscany Wenger

About David Solomon:

David Solomon is an independent curator who actively promotes Santa Fe and northern New Mexico artists. He has founded several exhibition venues including BANG! Gallery on Canyon Road in January 2005 and Underground Gallery in a downtown location in 2007. He has curated more than 50 exhibitions, including 707 Contemporary, Farrell-Fischoff Gallery, GF Contemporary, Jay Etkin Gallery and William Shearburn Gallery. Mr. Solomon is also a visual artist. He is active in many disciplines of the professional art world including artist consulting and gallery directing.

PHOTOS: Hi-res images are available on request

INTERVIEWS: Curator David Solomon is available for interviews

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