



EVENT RELEASE

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SFCC Art Exhibition: “Pop Surrealism” Sept. 2 to 27

High-resolution images available

Santa Fe, NM, Aug. 13, 2010 — Santa Fe Community College’s School of Arts and Design Visual Arts Gallery presents “Pop Surrealism,” a selection of artwork by local artists [Dennis Larkins](#), [Max Lehman](#) and [Tim Prythero](#). The exhibition presents contemporary artwork that quotes a diversity of popular and pre-Columbian visual influences. The exhibition runs from Sept. 2 to 27. An opening reception takes place at 4:30 to 6 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 2, at the Visual Arts Gallery of the SFCC campus, 6401 Richards Ave.

The Visual Arts Gallery exhibition also features the following special events:

- ∞ Max Lehman presents a gallery talk on his work, 1 to 3 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 13.
- ∞ Dennis Larkins leads a gallery talk on his work, 1 to 3 p.m. on Thursday, Sept 16.

More about the artists:

Tim Prythero’s work is detailed miniatures of artifacts of American culture in the Southwest. For subject matter and inspiration he travels extensively along old Highway 66, which runs through Albuquerque. “Whether it’s a diner, gas station, motel or tourist trap, I am intrigued and inspired,” he said. “I begin by building the structure as if it were fresh and new, and then apply the ‘aging process.’ From the effects of weather and time, the accumulation of clutter and the details left by everyday living, the inanimate object takes on a life of its own.” Prythero has exhibited his work at the Albuquerque Museum, Governor’s Gallery in Santa Fe, OK Harris Gallery in New York, Leslie Levy Galley, as well as galleries and exhibitions in Santa Fe, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Washington, D.C. and Houston. His work is represented in many public and private collections, including the Albuquerque Museum, New Mexico Museum of Art and Chase Manhattan Bank.

Max Lehman speaks of his ceramic sculptural work as a conglomeration of differentiated ideas that work together. He seeks a series of disjointed or unrelated things and places them into new relationships with each other. His style combines a strong graphic sensibility combined with bold color and iconographic cultural references. His visual sources include 1950s television, diverse

popular culture references and Mayan, Aztec, Teotihuacan and South American pre-Columbian patterns and figures. These factors combine to create unique ceramic sculptures, simultaneously full of humor and horror. Lehman is represented by galleries in Arizona, Maine, Florida, as well as the Santa Fe venues Santa Fe Clay and the Hahn Ross Gallery. He is also featured in numerous collections, including Sanford Besser, Santa Fe; Arizona State University Art Museum, and Santa Fe Community College.

Dennis Larkins' paintings and images examine the contradictory cultural influences that defined Postwar America and how those perceptions continue to define us today. Images of the American West combine with 1950s Ozzie and Harriett-style nuclear families that are often engaged in a Route 66 road trip through atomic landscapes and close encounters with aliens and flying saucers. Larkins works in dimensional painted relief on canvas and/or panel using a variety of mixed media techniques. The result is a dramatic 3-D effect and provides level of realism to the otherworldly scenes. He combines an impressive drawing facility with a savage sense of humor, forcing the viewer to reconcile their approaches to both popular and high-culture. Larkins worked for years in stage and scene design for Bill Graham productions in California, producing backdrops for many famous bands of the past 30 years. His works and career is detailed in a book recently co-published by La Luz de Jesus and Last Gasp, "Startling Art: Revealing the Art of Dennis Larkins."

About Santa Fe Community College

For more than 27 years, Santa Fe Community College has served as the gateway to success for individuals and our community. The College provides affordable, high-quality educational programs that serve the social, cultural, technological and economic needs of Santa Fe's diverse community. More than 14,500 students are served each year in its credit, noncredit and adult basic education programs.

Offering more than 72 degrees and certificate programs, SFCC caters to the academic, career and personal-enrichment needs of local residents, businesses, government and public service organizations. More than 274 full-time and 587 part-time employees are employed by the college. For further information, visit www.sfcnm.edu or call (505) 428-1000.

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