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For More Information

Marcia Reifman, Deputy Chair, Media Arts Department
Christine Benkert, SFCC Student, Artist
Todd Lovato, Director, Media Relations

(505) 428-1517
(505) 699-8569
(505) 428-1776

(for hi-res images, contact todd.lovato@sfccnm.edu)

SFCC Media Arts Exhibition Features Student Work

Santa Fe, NM, Feb. 9 – The artwork of Santa Fe Community College student artist Christine Benkert goes on display March 12 with BONES +, an enigmatic and meditative multimedia photography exhibition. The display runs through April 17 in the Media Arts Gallery, located in the 600 Wing of the SFCC campus, 6401 Richards Ave.

An opening reception takes place March 12 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Media Arts Gallery. The public is invited.

Benkert moved to Santa Fe in 2000 in search of what she describes as “a much needed change” and feeling the need to concentrate on her photography as art. With a background in photography that includes teaching and running a commercial studio in Minneapolis, Benkert picked Santa Fe as the perfect locale to marry her technical talents with her artistic ambitions. Benkert’s artistic ambitions included mastering digital media, which is why Benkert enrolled in classes in SFCC’s media arts program.

Bones + is made up of two collections: a series of small softly colored images captured digitally in natural light and a collection of four large-format black and white images, originally captured on film using strobe lighting techniques.

Much of Benkert’s imagery shares common motifs such as bone, stone and strong negative space, all devices which Benkert employs to create sharp and detailed compositions. “This exhibition is really more of a meditative exercise than being about anything in particular,” said Benkert. “I want to create work that you can move around in and feel centered. The subject matter becomes secondary to the strength and landscape that’s created within the images.”

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SFCC's Media Arts Gallery provides a venue for students and faculty to showcase their work, and a space for students to learn the many aspects of managing and promoting an exhibition. "The gallery gives students the opportunity to take part in the real life experience of putting together an exhibition, from start to finish," said gallery coordinator Marcia Reifman. "They create the art, frame their work, hand the show, host assemble and distribute the marketing materials and host the reception. For many students this is a first."

The Media Arts Gallery is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays. Admission is free. For information, call 428-1517

About Santa Fe Community College

Now celebrating its 25th year, Santa Fe Community College is the gateway to success for individuals and the community by providing affordable, high quality educational programs that serve the social, cultural, technological and economic needs of a diverse community. The college serves more than 14,500 students per year in its credit, noncredit and adult basic education programs. For further information, visit www.sfccnm.edu or call (505) 428-1000.

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