

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: (January 5, 2009)

Urban Jungle Opens at Art From Scrap

Artist's Reception and Opening on Saturday, January 17th, from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm at the Art From Scrap Gallery, 302 East Cota Street. Show opens January 17th and runs through March 7th, 2009. Gallery Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10:00 -2:00, Thursday 10:00-6:00, and Saturdays 10:00- 3:00. Panel discussion precedes the opening on Saturday, January 17th, from 4:00 – 5:00 pm. Community movie night screening of 'The 11th Hour' on Tuesday, February 10th, at 6:30 pm. CONTACT: Art From Scrap Artistic Director, Holly Mackay: (805) 884-0459 ext. 15 or EMAIL: devo@artfromscrap.org

SANTA BARBARA: Urban Jungle, a collaborative installation, opens January 17th at the Art From Scrap Gallery. Urban Jungle is a public art exhibition created by Los Angeles based artist Jennifer Vanderpool and UC Santa Barbara MFA student Elizabeth Folk. The theme of the exhibition is urban gardens; how city dwellers create and inhabit their built environment. Holly Mackay, Art From Scrap's Artistic Director states, "Jennifer and Elizabeth, along with students from El Puente School, will be using Art From Scrap materials to create a site specific installation."

Jennifer Vanderpool has exhibited solo and group shows nationally and internationally. Vanderpool creates "multifaceted and sometimes meandering installations that comment on domesticity, constructed environments, and pop culture." She calls Urban Jungle "a community intervention. This is a mentoring project with students from El Puente School. We'll be working with recycled materials, the urban environment, and youth culture."

Elizabeth Folk explains, "Urban Jungle is an exploration of how city dwellers interact with their built environment- how they inhabit and personalize previously existing space through the introduction of natural elements and the reintroduction of recycled objects and obsolete materials. The collaborative nature of this project allows us to tap into a diverse collective memory of how these 'aesthetic outbursts' manifest themselves." Folk's work includes interventionist performances, mixed- media installations, and constructed objects.

Urban Jungle opens with a panel discussion about the Artist In Residence Program at the SF Dump, an educational program that provides artists with access to discarded materials. Deborah Munk, director of the program, and collage artist Mark Faigenbaum, the Dump's current artist in residence, will be on the panel. Other events include a community movie night showing of "The 11th Hour" on Tuesday, February 10th, at 6:30 pm.

About Art From Scrap: Art From Scrap is Santa Barbara's Environmental Education and Art Center. The Art From Scrap Gallery is located upstairs at the Art From Scrap Reuse Store at 302 East Cota Street in downtown Santa Barbara. Art From Scrap offers assemblage artists a unique space dedicated to their art form. Rotating shows hang throughout the year bringing together art lovers, collectors and local artists.

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