

LAWNDALE ART CENTER

4912 Main Street

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www.lawndaleartcenter.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Dennis Nance

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Lawndale Art Center

Presents

Exhibitions on view

August 12 – September 24, 2011

Opening Reception August 12, 2011, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Artist talks at 6 PM

SOUTHERN/PACIFIC – curated by Paul Middendorf

John M. O'Quinn Gallery

The Power of Negative Feedback – Jeremy DePrez & Francis Giampietro

Mezzanine Gallery

Mexicanos – Joel Hernandez

Grace R. Cavnar Gallery

A Time to Celebrate – Mark Ponder

Project Space

Detritus – Jeff Forster

Mary E. Bawden Sculpture Garden

On view through June 2012

Famous Monsters – Daniel Anguilu

North exterior wall mural

Houston, Texas – Lawndale Art Center presents five exhibitions and a mural to kick-off the 2011-2012 season **opening August 24, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**, with artist talks beginning at **6 PM**. In the John M. O'Quinn Gallery, curator Paul Middendorf brings the group exhibition ***SOUTHERN/PACIFIC*** to its first stop in Houston, featuring the work of artists from Houston, Marfa and Portland, OR. In the Mezzanine Gallery, recent UH MFA graduates **Jeremy DePrez** and **Francis Giampietro** present collaborative work made in response to a recent residency in Japan. In the Grace R. Cavnar Gallery, **Joel Hernandez's** photography exhibition ***Mexicanos*** deals with his memories of Mexico and its people. In the Project Space, **Mark Ponder** explores an unsatisfactory use of celebration to cope with death in contemporary funeral rituals for his installation ***A Time to Celebrate***. **Jeff Forster** uses reclaimed and natural materials for his installation in the Mary E. Bawden Sculpture Garden titled ***Detritus***. The exhibitions continue through **September 24, 2011**.

Opening along with these exhibitions and on view through June 2012, Daniel Anguilu's mural *Famous Monsters* will be on view on Lawndale's north exterior wall.

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John M. O'Quinn Gallery

SOUTHERN / PACIFIC

Curated by Paul Middendorf

Artists: Camp Bosworth, John Calaway, Calvin Ross Carl, Joseph Cohen, Jillian Conrad, David Corbett, Arcy Douglass, Sean Healy, Hana Hillerova, Roxanne Jackson, Jeff Jahn, Terrell James, Jonathan Leach, Victor Maldonado, Ann Marie Nafziger, Alyce Santoro, Vontundra

Consulting Curator: Cassandra Adams-Harford

Project Advisors: Lorna Leedy and Terrell James

The steel tracks of the Southern Pacific Rail Company once stretched through the Pacific Northwest, down the West Coast and across Texas. These train lines connected people, ideas, and visions of expansion.

Southern/Pacific is a series of three exhibits spanning over six months and traveling across the South and up the West Coast. With its premiere and first stop at Lawndale Art Center, *Southern/Pacific* begins connecting artists and communities of Portland, Oregon, Houston and Marfa, Texas. These exhibitions and projects will create three different experiences in each city, starting in Houston. The artists within *Southern/Pacific* will be working directly with each other and these diverse surroundings to create new works and new conversations. Breaking beyond the white walls, *Southern/Pacific* branches out into the art world and into the public. With the main exhibitions creating the foundation, film screenings, panel discussions, performances and workshops will be happening throughout the duration of the show. *Southern/Pacific* is capturing the energy of these events, collaborations, and endeavors within each city and is bringing them together for three not to be missed exhibitions.



Camp Bosworth
Drug Money, 2010
Carved wood and paint

Mezzanine Gallery

Jeremy DePrez & Francis Giampietro

The Power of Negative Feedback

The Power of Negative Feedback is a collection of work developed by Jeremy DePrez and Francis Giampietro in response to their experiences at a recent 2-week residency in Nagoya, Japan through the Temporary Space. Negative Feedback is a concept that exists in various biological and physical systems to reverse discrepancies between desired and actual outputs. With this concept in mind DePrez and Giampietro visually negotiate the interplay between their anticipated and actual experiences in Japan.



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Grace R. Cavnar Gallery

Joel Hernandez

Mexicanos

Joel Hernandez's work deals with his memories of Mexico and its people in a theatrical way. Hernandez moved from Mexico when he was nine years old and grew up learning about Mexican culture through word of mouth or Spanish television. Hernandez recreates Mexican and Mexican-American culture and people in his work in a staged way in order to recreate his idea of what Mexico is and was.



Joel Hernandez

La Candelaria, 2010

Archival ink jet print

Project Space

Mark Ponder

A Time to Celebrate

Mark Ponder explores an unsatisfactory use of celebration to cope with death in contemporary funeral rituals. Inspired by commemorations for the passed life and the afterlife, *A Time to Celebrate* strives to brighten our encounter with death at the expense of a serious contemplation for it. The sculptural installation will operate on the surface as an extravagant birthday party to heighten a tension between reverence and whimsy. Ponder's use of cheap party decor and text highlights the absurdity of memorial services in a pastiche of happiness, insight, peace, humor, and, of course, dead bodies.

www.markponder.weebly.com



Mark Ponder

Dying isn't Scary, 2011

24"x40"x24"

Bone, Ribbon, and Glitter

Mary E. Bawden Sculpture Garden

Jeff Forster

Detritus

Just as historical objects and ruins make evident the extinction of pre-existing cultures, Jeff Forster creates objects and spaces that reflect the remains or residue that our culture might leave behind. For the exhibition *Detritus* Forster juxtaposes archaic, rudimentary forms with modern shapes to create post-apocalyptic debris. Through the use of re-claimed building materials and concrete Forster makes a direct reference to structures we build and what remains of them once they are abandoned. By then skinning these forms with clay combined with local vegetation the artist hopes to make evident the inevitable process of entropy, or natural process of reclamation. As time progresses and the natural materials decay, previously unseen parts of structures will be revealed, much like the unearthing of some forgotten ruin in an archeological dig yet to happen.

www.jeffforster.com



Jeff Forster

Frailty, 2010

Porcelain, native clay &

found object

6'Wx5'Dx6'H

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On view through June 2012

North exterior wall

Daniel Anguilu

Famous Monsters

For the 2011-2012 season artist Daniel Anguilu will transform Lawndale's north exterior wall into a site specific mural on view through June 2012.

Anguilu's work can be found throughout Houston, including locations in the East End and most recently in Midtown's MHMRA building. Anguilu's style is deeply inspired by his Mexican heritage, and mostly manifests itself as large-scale murals. Anguilu uses angular and organic forms to construct animals and other shapes, often drawing from Aztec influences. Anguilu aims to take these images and reinvent them in his own style that people can begin to recognize. Anguilu explains, "One my favorite parts of painting outdoors on buildings is the scale and the access everyone has to the art, this is not for one space and one crowd, this is for everyone to enjoy."

www.flickr.com/photos/weah/



Daniel Anguilu

Famous Monsters

(work in progress)

Non-toxic paint provided by [New Living](#) and [The Green Painter](#).

For more information on upcoming exhibitions and programs, please visit

<http://www.lawndaleartcenter.org>.

About Lawndale:	Lawndale Art Center develops local contemporary artists and the audience for their art. Lawndale is dedicated to the presentation of contemporary art with an emphasis on work by Houston artists. Lawndale presents exhibitions, lectures and events, and offers an annual residency program to further the creative exchange of ideas among Houston's diverse artistic, cultural and student communities.
Address:	4912 Main St., Houston, TX 77002
For More Info:	www.lawndaleartcenter.org or askus@lawndalwartcenter.org
Gallery Hours:	Monday-Friday, 10-5; Saturday, 12-5; Closed Sunday
Admission:	Free
Viewing Dates:	These exhibitions will open on Friday, August 12, 2011 and will remain on view through Saturday, September 24, 2011. Daniel Anguilu's mural will be on view through June 2012.
Press Contact:	Dennis Nance, 713-528-5858, dnance@lawndaleartcenter.org

Programs at Lawndale are supported in part by The National Endowment for the Arts, The City of Houston through the Houston Museum District Association, The Texas Commission on the Arts, Houston Endowment, The Brown Foundation, Inc., Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The Cavnar Foundation, The Cullen Foundation, The Wortham Foundation, Inc., John M. O'Quinn, Cecily Horton, Ann W. Harithas, Jonathan and Barbara Day, Diana M. Hudson and Lee Kaplan, Anita and David Garten, Mary and Roy Cullen, Daniel K. Dubrowski, Felvis/David R. Graham, Jenny and Mark Johnson, Andrew C. Schirmeister III, Samantha Schnee, Continental Airlines, Target, Art Colony Association, other contributors, memberships, benefit events and many volunteers.

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