



2 x 2 Solos: Luther Thie **Curated by Anuradha Vikram**

March 9 - April 9, 2010

Reception: Friday, April 2, 6 - 8 pm

Oakland, CA: Pro Arts is pleased to announce 2 x 2 Solos: Luther Thie, curated by Anuradha Vikram, on view March 9 - April 9, 2010 at Pro Arts' gallery in downtown Oakland. The exhibition is the second of four solo exhibitions that make up 2 x 2 Solos, a new program showcasing artists engaged in exceptional and innovative art-making in the Oakland/Bay Area. An Artists' Reception/Catalog Release Party is scheduled on Friday, April 2nd, 6 – 8 pm. Exhibition and events are free and open to the public.



Oakland-based artist Luther Thie's work uses large-scale installation and real-time data to respond to America's often-fatal obsession with cars. In his first solo exhibition at Pro Arts, Thie shows his *LA Interchange*, a fully functional scale model of a public memorial he proposes be erected at the intersection of the Santa Monica and Harbor freeways in Los Angeles. The memorial takes the form of an illuminated water fountain that uses real-time accident data from the California Highway Patrol Incident Report website to affect the intensity and color of the fountain's stream. The more severe the accident, the taller and more brightly lit the fountain becomes, creating a dynamic visualization of public tragedy. Thie's proposal acts both as a memorial to automobile fatalities and as a brightly lit reminder of the danger we face on the roads every day.

About 2 x 2 Solos

2 x 2 Solos showcases the best new work made in the region and provides the support necessary for emerging artists to establish themselves in a critical contemporary art context. Drawn from nominations by artist groups, institutions, and organizations in the Oakland/Bay Area, four artists are selected to work closely with an independent curator and receive a cash honorarium and a commissioned essay about their work.

About Pro Arts

Pro Arts provides critical access to contemporary art in Oakland and the Bay Area through its independent curated exhibitions, capacity-building artist services, open studios, juried programs, and diverse collaborative programs. In addition to being an advocate for regional artists, Pro Arts offers youth and community programs to further engage art audiences that reflect innovative artistic expression, and the rich cross-section of cultures, ethnicity, age, and race in the Oakland/Bay Area. Last year Pro Arts exhibited 690 artists and produced 62 events drawing an annual audience of 65,000. Additionally, Pro Arts provides professional art services to partnering institutions, and provides fiscal sponsorship to artists.

Pro Arts supports the arts within communities by serving the ongoing needs of artists.

For more information please contact: David Huff, Exhibitions Coordinator: David@proartsgallery.org or 510.763.4361
Image: Luther Thie, *LA Interchange*