

# PROJECT:

## A new exhibition series at Pro Arts

In January, Pro Arts launched a new series of exhibitions called PROJECT. This new series will run alongside annual programming and will enhance the exhibition calendar by offering new and unusual work in the gallery. PROJECT presents works which dialogue with topical issues and art practices from the wider contemporary art discourse—with an emphasis on exploring social practices, new genre, large scale installation, off-site projects and new media.

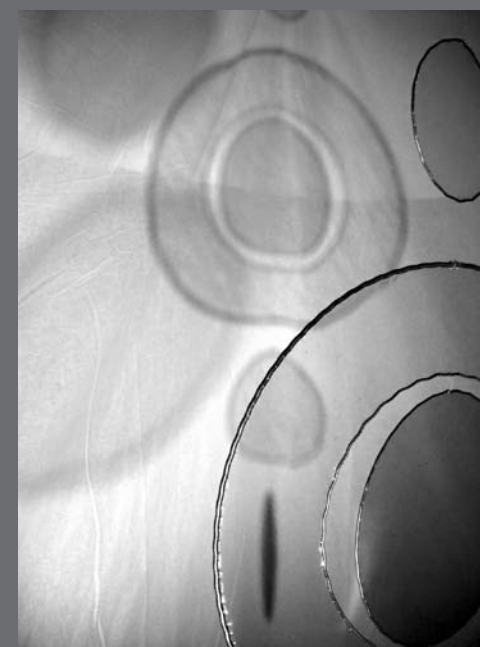
The first installment in January was a large scale installation by Oakland native Judy Spiegel. From March 1 - April 27, we are featuring United Net-works "On the Road" a mobile archive of artist and curatorial materials. Artists, artists collectives, arts organizations and curators—from everywhere—are invited to submit a folder with documentation of their creative practice. All individuals are welcome to participate in the archive by submitting a binder containing a presentation of art work, projects, interests and ideas. Anyone can browse the archive at their leisure.

"On the Road" Submission guidelines: All materials should be submitted in a standard 8.5" x 11" binder and should contain a resume/CV and examples of work and/or documentation. Examples can be submitted through images (photographs, ink-jet prints, etc. along with relevant information such as title, year, media, descriptive text, etc.), VHS/DVD format (include title, running length and year of production, along with a short descriptive text), CD-Rom (marked clearly with name and contact information), slides/digital images (2-3 representative 35 mm slides in plastic frames) and copies of texts or articles with source information (publication, date, issue, etc.). The archive will travel to other cities and venues to expand the participating and viewing audience. Submissions can be either mailed or delivered in person to Pro Arts. More detailed submission information is available online and at Pro Arts.

Coming up next in the PROJECT series is an installation of *Vapor 6* by Kato Jaworski (March 29 - April 17) and in-gallery performances by The Susan O'Malley Research Team, a duo of artists whose work is rooted in social practices and art performance.



Images clockwise from top left: United Net-works *On the Road*, Image courtesy of Southern Exposure; *Vapors* by Kato Jaworski, Image courtesy of the artist; *Remembering* by Judy Spiegel, Image courtesy of Mio Nishi Good.



## Q & A

### Christian L. Frock asks Hershell West about his art, other people's art & the *Great Cuban Sandwich Invitational* of '91

**What images do you have up in your workspace?** I have some works by my mentor Julia Eastberg, Bud Olson, Jennifer Downey and Keith Calhoun. Keith is a young local artist whose work takes me back to my youth growing up in the small rural community of Enterprise, Alabama. I also have photographs of Abraham Lincoln and Lyndon Johnson along with a copy of the Gettysburg address.

**What are you working on right now?** A large painting using a digitized photograph of a property fence.

**If you could live with any one artwork, what would it be?** My work in progress currently, but the end game is to rid myself of the work and to divorce myself of the energy given to the process of its creation—simply stated: to sell it.

**What exhibitions have been most memorable to you?** The one that comes readily to mind is *The Great Cuban Sandwich Exhibit Invitational* (Tampa, FL 1991). The concept grew out of a conversation with my studio mate, Gordon Myhre. We were discussing the lack of 'placemakers' in Tampa—we thought if San Francisco had the Golden Gate Bridge and St. Louis had the Arch, Tampa also needed a symbol. We asked ourselves when one thinks of Tampa, what comes to mind? We agreed that it had to be the Cuban Sandwich. We decided to stage a show of art work featuring interpretations of the culinary treat. It is now a highly anticipated annual exhibition.

**Who is your favorite artist?** John Wehrle of Richmond, CA. The works that are most important to me are the works that we worked together on: *The Ferry Point Tunnel Mural* (Point Richmond, CA 1996), *Century XING Overpass Mural* (Richmond, CA 2000), and *Pinole Gateway Overpass Mural* (Pinole CA 2002)

**Whose work do you find to be profoundly undervalued?** There are too many artists to name and they all look like me. Casper Banjo, Jonathan Eubanks—my own work.

**Whose work do you find to be grossly overvalued?** No one.

**What/whose artwork first influenced your work?** *Europe after the Rain* by Max Ernst. Max found me during my sophomore year when I was frustrated and clueless to the affective nature of painting. Before Max, I was unimpressed with labels attached to art-work and artists. What was I to make of the rhetoric of art history professors who presented the great and the famous in the art-world for the lowly art student to worship? At no time did I see or hear of a great artist that painted as I did. I was in the campus library doing research when I turned a page to Ernst's work. Immediately goosebumps blanketed my entire body. I was moved! This painting dealt with the devastation on the collective European psyche after WWII. Having spent some time with this work, my thoughts kept returning to an internal landscape. My own psychological scars were slow to heal from fresh memories of civil rights battles, where politics and racism had marked the historical map of progress with death and destruction. I came away determined to validate my experiences through my art and to stand before it affective before I retire the mark.

**What do you hope to work on someday?** An enormous mural without constraint.

**What is art for?** For people.

Hershell West is a muralist, arts activist and President of the Pro Arts Board of Directors. Christian L. Frock is the new Director of Exhibitions & Programming.

Image: Detail from *Pinole Gateway Overpass Mural*, image courtesy of Hershell West and John Wehrle.

## pro arts gallery store

Pro Arts continuously looks for new and interesting items to sell in the gallery store. Jewelry is always of interest, as are prints and small artworks. Artists interested to have their work considered for the gallery store should call 510/763-4361 or email [info@proartsgallery.org](mailto:info@proartsgallery.org) to get more information.

## TEMESCAL STREET FAIR

Saturday, June 18th 12-6pm  
On Telegraph Ave between 48th-51st,  
Oakland

Exhibit for Free in a Fine Art Pavilion  
Temescal Artists Preferred

Contact: Karen Hester 654-6346 x4  
[karen@hesternet.net](mailto:karen@hesternet.net)

## be pro arts

There are many ways to support this organization. Consider hosting your next event at the gallery or advertising your business in The Pro Arts Quarterly Art Sheet. Site rental and advertising rates are very competitive and directly benefit Pro Arts Exhibitions and Programming. For more information call 510/763-4361 or visit [www.proartsgallery.org](http://www.proartsgallery.org)

A reading area has been created in the gallery so that visitors can sit and read about our exhibitions. There is also a selection of articles from the contemporary art discourse that are topical to current exhibitions and offer varying perspectives on relative subjects.

## dialogue

Dialogue is a new forum for exchange between Pro Arts Artist Members and Christian L. Frock, Director of Exhibitions & Programming. At varying times, a question will be posed on the website and in the gallery. Artist Members are invited to respond in writing. Email responses to [christian@proartsgallery.org](mailto:christian@proartsgallery.org). Responses can also be left at the desk in the gallery.

Question: **Keeping in mind the nature of your artwork, who are the top three professionals that you would like to have look at your work?** Aim high!

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Art & Soul returns  
to downtown Oakland  
over Labor Day Weekend,  
September 3 - 5, 2005

We are looking for artisans to vend their handcrafted wares. Art & Soul is a non-juried street festival that features both handcrafted wares and commercial, imported goods.

For an artisan application call (510) 238-7402 or email [ArtandSoul@oaklandnet.com](mailto:ArtandSoul@oaklandnet.com)

[www.artandsouloakland.com](http://www.artandsouloakland.com)

## EAST BAY OPEN STUDIOS

During *East Bay Open Studios (EBOS)*, artists in 14 East Bay cities open their studios to the public during two weekends in June. The program gives artists the opportunity to invite the public into their workspaces, sell artwork, build mailing lists, prepare thier studios for public viewing, meet other artists and gain exposure. EBOS is also a unique and fun way for the public to meet artists, explore the East Bay's diverse neighborhoods and buy art.

EBOS includes a six-week Preview Exhibition at Pro Arts gallery, an online gallery with works available for sale online, Meet & Greet receptions for artists and publication of the *Map & Directory* for self-guided public tours. Other exciting opportunities for artists and the public alike are the EBOS Preview Gala and the Art Bus Tour.

### EBOS PREVIEW GALA

Thursday, April 28, 6-9pm ; \$75 / \$35 Artist Ticket  
Call to buy your tickets 510/763-4361 or mail in the form below.  
Join us for a formal and festive evening with live music, performance and champagne to celebrate East Bay arts. The gala also provides attendees an exclusive preview of the EBOS exhibition.

### ART BUS TOURS AND RECEPTION

The Art Bus Tour is an exclusive tour and private viewing of artist studios. Come to the Friday reception and enjoy wine and hors d'oeuvres too!  
Friday, June 3, 6pm \$75; Saturday and Sunday, June 4 - 5, 1pm \$35

East Bay Open Studios  
June 4 & 5, 11 & 12, 2005 (Saturdays & Sundays)  
Artist studios are open 11am - 6pm

EBOS Preview Exhibition at Pro Arts  
April 28 - June 12, 2005



## EBOS PREVIEW GALA & ART BUS TICKETS

Please complete and fax to 510.763.9470 or mail to:  
Pro Arts Gala & Art Bus Tickets 550 Second Street, Oakland, CA 94607

**Gala Ticket:** \$75 x \_\_\_\_\_ April 28, 6PM +\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 **Gala Artist Ticket:** \$35 x \_\_\_\_\_ (Limit 2 per member artist) April 28, 6PM +\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 **Art Bus Preview:** \$75 x \_\_\_\_\_ (Friday June 3, 6PM; Includes reception and tour) +\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 **Art Bus Day Tour:** \$35 x \_\_\_\_\_ (circle one) Saturday, June 4 or Sunday June 5 +\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 **Sorry, I cannot attend. Enclosed is a contribution.** +\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** +\$ \_\_\_\_\_

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**YES!** I'm interested in volunteering at Pro Arts. Please contact me about the following needs:  
 Receptions  Bulk Mail  Gallery Sitting  Juried Exhibitions  Data entry  Gallery Siting  Installations  
 Publicity  East Bay Open Studios Committee  Web Site Committee  Artist Advisory Committee

Payment type:  Check enclosed. Make checks payable to Pro Arts.  Charge my VISA/Mastercard!  
Acct # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

East Bay Open Studios, the much-anticipated annual event is upon us. Join us this year to celebrate Pro Arts at the Preview Gala on April 28 This spring benefit highlights the EBOS Preview Exhibition, East Bay arts, performance, champagne, wine and fabulous fare. Pro Arts' 31st anniversary is indeed an achievement, not in longevity alone, but as proof of the dedication and tenacity of Bay Area artists. Join us for an elegant celebratory evening. Tickets are available in advance. See page 4 for ticket order form.

Be sure to get on the bus! The Art Bus Preview Tour and Day Tours are a great way to visit open studios and let us do the driving. This year Pro Arts is hosting three tours during the first weekend of open studios. See page 4 for more information.

Pro Arts is pleased to announce a new series of exhibitions called PROJECT. Christian L. Frock, the new Director of Exhibitions and Programming is interested to bring greater attention to Bay Area arts within the wider international contemporary art community. PROJECT is a means of exploring local arts in this wider context.

I encourage you to visit the gallery. There is always an exhibition to view. The gallery and gallery store are now open six days a week.

Over the past year or so staff have worked hard to increase opportunities for member artists. Our new gallery has expanded our audience. I am continually in awe of the beautiful momentum of Pro Arts programming throughout the year. Join me in my support of this organization and be pro arts!

Margo Dunlap  
Executive Director

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**Harold Adler 510/339 - 6386**  
haroldadlers@yahoo.com

**Professional Art Handling & Installation**

**Chris Wenzler, Work of Art**  
415/250- 4466

**Special thanks to Pro Arts donors:**  
Susan Barnard, Betty Barnett  
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Susan Brooks, Friends of Keith Carson, Marion Coleman, Robin Cowley, Helen Dannelly, Shari De Boer, De La Fuente for City Council, Gabriel Delgado and Melissa Belgara, Pamela Merory Dernham, Ethel Di Stefano, Joan DiStefano Ruiz  
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Richard White, Dona Wilson, Stephen Wirtz Gallery Inc., Michael Zinns, Zucchini Toast

# thank you

**Heartfelt thanks to our volunteers during January, February & March:**  
Harold Adler, Bart Borland, Sylvia Chuang, Maggie Cockrell, Shari DeBoer, Heather Feeney, Lea Feinstein, Doron Fishman, Tom Lopes, Mio Nishi Good, Thekla Hammond, Rae Louise Hayward, Lani Imre, Maggie Kerr, Philip Klingelhofer, Dai Nakabayashi, Lorna Moglia, Jessy Pa'at, Vada Pinto, Karin Turner, Margo Rivera-Weiss, Sue Shuff, Ruth Sipper, Brandon Solem, Anneliese Vobis, Chris Wenzler, Mary H. Wagner, DJ Wooley

# EVENTS CALENDAR

## april june

### SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2 - 4pm

*Artist Talk and Exhibition Reception*  
PROJECT: *Vapor 6* by Kato Jaworski  
Artist Talk will begin at 2:30pm

### FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 8pm

*Second Fridays - Youth Speaks*  
Pro Arts and Spokes, the Youth Speaks youth advisory board, present an exciting open-mic with free poetry, music and dancing for youth under-21 with a fresh youth DJ. All ages welcome, but only youth on the mic. FREE.

### SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 5pm

*Exhibition closes*  
PROJECT: *Vapor 6* by Kato Jaworski  
closes to the public.

### SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 5pm

*Exhibition closes*  
PROJECT: United Net-works "On the Road" closes to the public.

### TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26 - 27, 6 - 8pm

*EBOS Artists Meet & Greet* at Pro Arts  
Maps A - D meet 6pm, Tuesday  
Maps E - G meet 7pm, Tuesday  
Maps H - J meet 6pm, Wednesday  
Maps K - M meet 7pm, Wednesday

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 12pm

*Exhibition opens*  
*East Bay Open Studios Preview*  
*Exhibition* opens to the public.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 6 - 9pm

*East Bay Open Studios Preview Gala*  
A formal and festive evening with live music, performance and champagne to celebrate the largest arts event in this region. Tickets available in advance online, in the gallery and by mail.

## may

### FRIDAY, MAY 13, 8pm

*Second Fridays - Youth Speaks*

### MONDAY, MAY 23, 6:30pm

*Board Meeting*  
Members are invited to attend.

### THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 7 - 9pm

*Artists Reception*  
Join us for a reception with participating East Bay Open Studios artists.

### FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 6pm

*Art Bus Preview Tour*  
The art bus is an exclusive tour of select artists studios featured in Pro Arts' East Bay Open Studios. Enjoy private views of artist studios, wine and hors d'oeuvres. Advanced tickets available. Additional tours during the first weekend. See page 4 for details.

### SATURDAY & SUNDAY, JUNE 4 - 5, 11am - 6pm

*Open Studios Weekend One*  
Art Bus Tours: Saturday & Sunday, 1pm  
Tickets available for sale in advance.

### SATURDAY & SUNDAY, JUNE 4 - 5, 11am - 6pm

*Open Studios Weekend Two*

### FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 8pm

*Second Fridays - Youth Speaks*

### SUNDAY, JUNE 12, 5pm

*Exhibition closes*  
East Bay Open Studios Preview Exhibition  
closes to the public.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 12pm

*Exhibition opens*  
*A Girl's Life* opens to the public.  
Pro Arts and Vaquera Films present *A Girl's Life*, an exhibition of video installations featuring short adaptations from the feature length documentary of the same name, directed and produced by Kristy Guevara-Flanagan and Dawn D. Valadez.  
Image courtesy of Vaquera Films



### THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 6 - 8pm

*A Girl's Life* Exhibition Reception

Payment type:  Check enclosed Make checks payable to Pro Arts.  Charge my VISA/Mastercard!  
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Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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YES! I'm interested in volunteering at Pro Arts. Please contact me about:  
 Receptions  Bulk Mail  Gallery Sitting  Juried Exhibitions  Data entry  Gallery Sitting  Installations

**PRO ARTS MEMBER BENEFITS INCLUDE:** A 10% discount at The Art Store (Valid membership card required at purchase), free proof for postcards printed at Post Script Press (\$35 value), exhibition and curatorial opportunities for off-site exhibitions & in the Gallery Store, participation in East Bay Open Studios, the Juried Annual, and New Visions, inclusion in Pro Arts' Artist Directory, *A Work in Progress* quarterly newsletter including advance notice of all calls for entry, announcements of exhibits and events, and updates on happenings in East Bay arts, discounts to workshops & events, and a 10% discount on all gallery purchases.

**be pro arts**



Pro Arts is supported by our volunteers, more than 1000 members, the Oakland City Council, the City of Oakland's Cultural Funding Program, the San Francisco Foundation, the East Bay Community Foundation, Clorox Foundation, Metrovaton, Merritt Sher, LMI Net, East Bay Express and SunDesign Studios. Pro Arts is a 501(c)3.  
550 Second Street, Oakland, CA 94607 Tel: 510/763-4361 • Fax 510/763-9470 •  
E-mail: [info@proartsgallery.org](mailto:info@proartsgallery.org) Gallery Hours: Tues - Sat 12-6pm AND SUN 12-5pm

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# A WORK IN PROGRESS

The Pro Arts Quarterly Artsheet; Spring 2005

## APRIL MAY JUNE

**Board of Directors:**  
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Ortrun Niesar  
*Chair, Development Committee*

Margo Dunlap  
Dan Fontes  
*Members*

**Staff:**  
Margo Dunlap  
*Executive Director*

Christian L. Frock  
*Director of Exhibitions & Programming*

Byron Spicer  
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Catherine Lee  
*Administrative Assistant*

Eric Murphy  
*Gallery Assistant*

**Mission:**  
Founded in 1974 as the Alameda County Neighborhood Arts Program, Pro Arts is a non-profit 501(c)3 artist-based membership organization serving the Bay Area's diverse cultural communities.

**Pro Arts**  
550 Second Street  
Oakland CA 94607  
Tel: 510/763-4361  
[www.proartsgallery.org](http://www.proartsgallery.org)

Cover image: A visitor during *The Art of Living Black: Selected Works*. Artwork: Mwezi Wa Pili na Maambolezwa ya Mwisho, Chapter 2 by Githinj Mwabire. Image courtesy of Mio Nishi Good



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# be pro arts