



## NEWS RELEASE

February 26, 1991

For Immediate Release

Press release on current art exhibition:

### ***Freedom Views: 1991***

February 26 - April 11, 1991

**Gallery Hours:** Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 11-4  
Wednesday evening 7-9  
Saturday 11-2 (March 16, 23, April 6)  
Before selected Flint Center events  
Tour groups by appointment

**Reception:** Thursday, March 21, 6-8

On view at the Euphrat Gallery through April 11, *Freedom Views: 1991* is built from installations, sculptures, paintings, prints, collages, and drawings about ideas and feelings related to the words "freedom" and "responsibility." Timely and thought-provoking, the exhibition evokes individual values as well as international and domestic issues with which the United States is struggling. It also recognizes the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution.

Included are works by eight contemporary American artists: Enrique Chagoya, Johnny Coleman, Deborah Kennedy, Emily Kiesel, Louise Lieber, Frances Paragon-Arias, Juan Sánchez, and Florence Wong.

The exhibition concept was first proposed by Deborah Kennedy, an artist based in San Jose. Kennedy's installation, *For Freedom*, addresses freedom of expression, freedom of belief, freedom from want, and freedom from fear. These four freedoms were articulated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in his well-known 1941 speech. Spanning a gallery wall, Kennedy's

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work incorporates 19th century images of the Statue of Liberty, seen from within and without. Viewers are invited to step upon elements of the installation in order to activate light displays related to the four freedoms. "People must act in order to bring freedom to life," Kennedy points out, "but they must also consider the consequences of how they do so."

Taking Kennedy's concept further, the Euphrat's curatorial staff met with a number of artists and others to discuss the meanings of freedom and its reflections in art. From these discussions, fifth, sixth, and many more freedoms emerged along with widely different interpretations of the word. The sobering reality emerged that one person's symbol of freedom may be another's symbol of oppression. Some of the works chosen for the exhibition were created with the concept of freedom in mind; others brought insights to the word after their completion.

Louise Lieber also presents a large-scale mixed-media installation which embodies "a mental landscape." Her work includes three sculptures — *The Angel Who Weeps*, *The Demon Swamp*, and *The Wood of Saint Joan*. Singly and collectively, these refer to individuals' internal wars between good and evil and to their capacity for transcendence.

The exhibition also includes *Shango/Merging Traffic* and *Against the Wall/Scene of the Crime*, mixed media works by Southern California artist Johnny Coleman. Coleman is concerned with "the effects of institutionalized processes of 'normalization' that deny (the) humanity of African-Americans." *Against the Wall/Scene of the Crime* addresses the complicity of the U.S. educational system in this dehumanization. A chalk outline of a slain male figure appears on a blackboard. Above is a tar-covered panel into which vertical notches have been incised; below is chalk dust which viewers step into and spread throughout the gallery.

Works on paper by New York-based Juan Sánchez and Berkeley-based Enrique Chagoya refer to colonialism. Sánchez's vibrantly-colored print/collages speak of the liberation of the spirit...and of his native Puerto Rico. Chagoya's charcoal and pastel drawing, *1492*, employs cartoon-like elements to evoke ongoing cultural imperialism while his print *Do Not Think the Unthinkable* refers to issues related to freedom of expression.

*Freedom Views: 1991* also includes works by Emily Kiesel and Florence Wong with a narrative and loosely autobiographical approach. Kiesel is represented by *Diarama*, a handsomely crafted wooden desk patterned with what Kiesel terms "hairsley." The desk incorporates four small lighted dioramas which tell an appalling and mundane story of animal life. Wong's combines hand-stitched rice sacks with sequins, lace, bottle caps, and *lee see*, red Chinese New Year's bags. The piece refers to the importance of donated bags of rice in seeing her family through a period of hardship after her father was shot. It also embodies the process of healing the wounds of life in a first generation Chinese-American family.

Frances Paragon-Arias presents *Sun Dance*, a recent series of four serigraphs incorporating the symbolism of the Native American Sun Dance, a dance banned until the '60s under federal law. The series evokes freedom of religion, including freedom to worship privately and to resist efforts to turn one's worship service into public spectacle. Accordingly, Paragon-Arias

offers little information about the religious aspects of the Sun Dance.

Quotes and recent newspaper articles related to freedom and a large pad of paper for viewers' observations complement the exhibition.

*Freedom Views: 1991* was curated by Jan Rindfleisch with Patricia Albers, Brenda Bell Brown, and Diana Argabrite. Cecilia Preciado Burciaga, José Antonio Burciaga, Michael Chang, June LeGrand, and Frances Paragon-Arias participated in a focus group on freedom. David Coleman, Gallery Paule Anglim, Helen Jones, Deborah Kennedy, Peter Landsberger, Ulysses Pichon, Barbara Rogers, and Lucy Cain Sargeant provided additional assistance.

The public is invited to a reception honoring the artists on Thursday, March 21, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Euphrat Gallery.



## NEWS RELEASE

April 4, 1991

For Immediate Release

Press release on upcoming art exhibition:

### *Cupertino Union School District Show*

April 24 - May 1, 1991

Gallery Hours:                      Monday through Friday 1-4  
   Wednesday evening 7-9  
   Sunday 4-5, following Cupertino Union School District  
   Command Performance  
   Class visits at other times by appointment

Reception and "Chalk-In":        Saturday, April 27, 12-2

The *Cupertino Union School District Show* presents a lively look at life through the eyes of local elementary school students. Sponsored by Tandem Computers, the exhibition features recent drawings, paintings, sculpture, and mixed-media works by kindergarten through eighth grade students.

Nearly 12,000 children who speak twenty-three different languages make up the student body of the Cupertino Union School District. From surfing to software, religion to rap, these students' interests are as varied as their backgrounds. The *Cupertino Union School District Show* is an opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the spirit and diversity of our community's students. Each district school is represented.

Some artworks are produced in the regular classroom. Others are made in the Euphrat's Extended Day Art Program. The Community Foundation of Santa Clara County, Cupertino Educational Endowment Foundation, IBM, and Pacific Gas and Electric fund the program in C.U.S.D. schools.

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The Cupertino Union School District Show offers children an opportunity to see their work and that of their peers in a professional gallery, to talk about art, and to experience a college environment. Their teachers receive well-deserved recognition. Everyone has an opportunity to learn more about how important art is to teaching English, social studies, math, history, and other subjects. It may be one of the very best means of helping children appreciate the diverse cultures of the Bay Area.

The Euphrat Gallery is located east of Flint Center on the De Anza College campus in Cupertino. To make reservations for group tours, please call (408) 864-8836.

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## NEWS RELEASE

May 2, 1991

For Immediate Release

PSA on upcoming art exhibition:

### *De Anza Student Art Show*

May 29 - June 20, 1991

Gallery Hours:

Monday - Thursday 11-4

Wednesday evening 7-9

Saturday 11-2

De Anza Day, Sunday, June 2, 10-4

Closed Monday, June 3

Reception and Awards Ceremony:

Wednesday, June 12, 6-8

ON VIEW AT THE EUPHRAT GALLERY, THE *DE ANZA STUDENT ART SHOW* IS A JURIED EXHIBITION FEATURING ART WORKS BY DE ANZA COLLEGE STUDENTS. OPEN FROM MAY 29 THROUGH JUNE 20, THE SHOW FEATURES CERAMICS, PAINTINGS, SCULPTURE, PHOTOGRAPHY, DRAWINGS, AND MIXED-MEDIA WORKS. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO A RECEPTION WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 6-8 P.M.

THE EUPHRAT IS LOCATED EAST OF FLINT CENTER ON THE DE ANZA COLLEGE CAMPUS IN CUPERTINO. FOR INFORMATION, CALL (408) 864-8836.

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