



Master of Fine Art *Exhibition*

1998

San Francisco State *University*

When I first met these artists in the Art 700 seminar in Fall 1995, I was impressed by their creativity, intelligence, enthusiasm, and commitment. Despite their different interests, backgrounds, and personalities, they formed a tightly knit, supportive group. All the Art Department faculty have enjoyed the opportunity to participate in their artistic and intellectual development.

The pieces in this exhibition explore diverse issues of identity, the theme of Art 705, the M.F.A. art history seminar in which most of them participated. Selna's hyperactive figures in ambiguous spaces convey the fragmented sense of identity prevalent in a society that discourages introspection. Through innovative imagery and combinations of materials, Babiarz challenges restrictive conceptions of gender. By utilizing Native American basket weaving techniques to create large sculptures, Shuck synthesizes components of her heritage and diverse professional interests. In her poetic multimedia works, Hirsch examines her own Ohioan Catholic background.

Lee bridges geographic and psychological distances by creating related web sites in both San Francisco and her native Seoul. By asking gallery visitors to formulate the narrative of *Empty Hand*, Schneider rejects the role of the "artist" as the primary creator of significance. Jardel's sensuously layered paintings eloquently reveal the impossibility of defining any monolithic identities or meanings. Galli explores interconnections of natural and human/artistic creative processes and simultaneously calls attention to the beauty and significance of broken states of being.

Visitors to the exhibition undoubtedly will uncover many other interpretations for these visually stimulating and intellectually provocative works.

Richard G. Mann, Ph.D., Professor of Art,
San Francisco State University,
February, 1998

MFA 1998

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Julia Babiarz

Lisa Galli

Christine Hirsch

Martine Jardel

Kyung-Hee Lee

Tina Schneider

Elizabeth Selna

Kim Shuck

Master of Fine Arts *Exhibition*

College of Creative Arts
Art Department Gallery

Exhibition

April 18 - May 20, 1998
and Commencement
Saturday May 30, 1998

Reception

Saturday April 18, 1998
2-4pm

Gallery Hours

Monday through Saturday
12-4pm

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Painting is an engagement with the ambiguous and the unknown. The final surface of a painting is the product of the traces of all the layers beneath it. This process of layering paint generates unstable meanings which reflect the arbitrariness of language. Painting is resistant to "naming".



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