

Press Release
Office of Cultural Affairs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEW TRANSIT CORRIDOR ART PROJECTS DEBUT DURING 01SJ

SAN JOSE, CALIF. — (May 27, 2008) — San Jose announced today the launch of new projects as part of *Who's on 1st/ What's on 2nd* (www.w1w2.org), a series of temporary multi-media artworks—by Bay Area artists—along San Jose's main downtown public transit corridor. Commissioned by the City of San Jose Public Art Program, a division of the Office of Economic Development, in partnership with the San Jose Redevelopment Agency and the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), the projects debut on June 4, 2008 along First and Second Streets from St. James Park to Paseo de San Antonio in Downtown San Jose to coincide with 01SJ Festival.

- **June 4-August 10.** *Hello, San Jose!* created by Chip Lord and Bruce Tomb will occupy two parking spaces at the corner of South Second Street and Fountain Alley. This brightly painted kiosk contains eight listening posts in the structure broadcast music and talk radio stations from distant places. Listeners can “mix” audio channels as they walk around the structure or sit and experience the “Ghost Zocalo”. In addition, by calling (408) 288-5962, they can leave a message that will be broadcast to the neighborhood. *Hello San Jose!* was created with the assistance of Technical Consultant: Paul Rauschelbach and Sound Designer: Jim McKee.

- **Noon, June 4.** *Day for Night* opens its doors. Created by Ga-Ga / Jordan Geiger with the collaboration of Eric Olsen, Thomas Bates and Stijn Schiffeleers, this installation is located at 25 N. 1st Street. *Day for Night* is a temporary architectural environment that reacts to downtown San José street life by inverting the relationship between time and place, local and global. The artwork is an inflatable structure built with the use of computer modeling. The surface of the structure is surrounded by sensors that respond to visitors' presence with a live audio-video feed sent constantly from sources in various time zones removed from San José, perpetually dislocating visitors, giving a midday opportunity to occupy midnight and vice-versa; but at the price of leaving San José. Together, these elements make up an interior that synchronizes itself with conditions from around the planet – Melbourne, Australia; Banff, Canada; Dublin, Ireland; Oulu, Finland; and Paris, France.
- **June 4-June 14.** *Day for Night* will be open 24 hours per day continuously until its closing. Live audio-video streams will be transmitted on three projectors, continuously, from pubs, open markets, a mountain trailhead, an electronic media arts center and other public places in Australia, Canada, Ireland, Finland and France.
- **1-2 p.m., Friday, June 6.** As part of *Day for Night*, there will be a Special Concert, live from Paris: The Bosch Duet - Rada Boukova and Aalam Wassef with special guest Yroyto Friday. (1-2p.m. California Time = 10p.m. Paris Time.)
- **9 p.m., Friday, June 4.** J.D. Beltran's *Downtown Mirror*, will add a special five-day outdoor evening component on June 4-8th in Fountain Alley, between 1st and 2nd Streets. *Downtown Mirror [Airplanes]* is a stylized 16mm film of the ubiquitous airplanes that also inhabit the downtown area, screened as a large 40 foot long by 18 foot high projection onto the side of the building that borders the Fountain Alley parking lot. Although the projection is largely silent, Beltran will use innovative audio spotlight technology for sound -- viewers in a special spot in Fountain Alley will actually be able to hear the roar of the airplanes flying by. This installation will join four other elements of Beltran's *Downtown Mirror*

videos projected in large storefront windows to reflect the immediate physical environment and the heterogeneous demographic and historical atmosphere of the downtown area. Other video projections are located in two storefront windows adjacent to Zanotto's at The Globe residential community, located at 25 S. 3rd Street, at 38 2nd Street, and in a small storefront window on the Paseo De San Antonio, adjacent to Camera 12 Cinemas.

- **4:45 p.m., Thursday, June 5.** a *Sonic Cascades* will broadcast the live sounds of the bells of Trinity Cathedral amplified through a sequence of speakers and sonic delays along Second Street. A combination of some traditional bell music and minimalist composition by Bill Fontana will be heard. *Sonic Cascades* uses bell tones from the historic Trinity Episcopal Cathedral (<http://www.trinitysj.org>), 81 N. 2nd, to create a sound sculpture that interacts with the urban landscape. The sonic artwork is created using a microphone in the bell tower that sends an audio signal through a sound mixer, generating a real time composition, what the artist characterizes as a "transparent composition." This composition multiplies the sound of the bells along 2nd Street creating a continually changing relationship between the source sound and the listener as they move down the street. The piece also can be experienced from within the cathedral.
- **6-8 p.m., Thursday, June 5.** Artist Jon Brumit's *South Bay Talent Center (SBTC)* will host its opening reception. Located at 1 San Fernando (the former Blue Monkey Bar adjacent to Gordon Biersch) is an interactive project inspired by the notion that everyone is good at something. *SBTC* will storefront to encourage participation in bi-weekly talent showcases. Designed to explore, catalog and celebrate the numerous varieties of "talent" found within the city of San Jose via its inhabitants, visitors, and workers, *SBTC* will promote accessibility and public interaction. *SBTC* will be open from June 1 through August 15, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays 12 p.m. to 6 p.m; Fridays, 12 p.m. to 9 p.m. Upon closing will release a print publication called the *South Bay Talent Center Quarterly Report*. Attendance and participation will be sought by way of bi-weekly talent showcases within the space and a series of collaborative art projects evolving just inside the storefront windows.

- **6:30-7:15 p.m., Friday, June 6.** Jon Brumit will have a booth at the 01SJ fair in SoFA and will include a *South Bay Talent Center* preview talent show on the First Street Stage, next to Anno Domini Gallery.
- **1-3 p.m., Saturday, June 7.** At the RFK Forum in St. James Park, artist Helena Keefe's *RFK Remix* will present music and performances inspired by the words of Robert Kennedy, who was assassinated on June 5, 1968. The event will feature the Vivace Youth Concert Choir and the San Jose Symphonic Choir performing an original composition by Dale Victorine based on a speech by RFK, the St. James Park Senior Center band "The Moonlighters", and DJ Tommy Aguilar. Audience members will be encouraged to recite parts of RFK speeches. *RFK Remix* uses the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Forum in St. James Park to explore the values espoused by Kennedy who is remembered for his dedication to and ideas of freedom, free speech and equality. The monument --- in the form of a speaker's podium --- is intended to be engaged by visitors rather than simply admired. During the performance, a tapestry of pieces cut from recycled clothing will be installed on the wall of the monument behind the speakers' podium. The t-shirts have been collected by Claire Madriz-Soto who runs a stand at the Capitol Flea Market and gives away free clothing to the homeless. The fabric encasement pays tribute to Ms. Madriz-Soto's commitment to helping others while creating a visual cue for current activity at the monument. Other elements of *RFK Remix* include RFK speeches, recorded by Toastmasters, students, and local activists that are available for viewing on the RFK Remix website: www.rfkremix.info and an *RFK Remix Audio Walk*. The audio walk will take participants along the downtown transit corridors, including a visit to the monument. The content includes music, interviews and speech reenactments. The tour is approximately 15 minutes in length. CD players will be available for check-out from the following locations:
 - San Jose Office of Cultural Affairs, 365 S. Market St. M-F, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.
 - Good Karma Vegan Café, 37 S. First St, M-Sat 11 a.m.-9 p.m.,
 - Sun. Noon-7 p.m.
 - Circle A Skateboards, 108 Paseo de San Antonio, M-Sun., 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

- St. James Senior Center, 199 N. 3rd St., M-F, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

About Who's on 1st/What's on 2nd

The art pieces in the Who's on 1st/What's on 2nd project are inspired by the people and activities that take place in Downtown San Jose. A majority of artworks involve an element of public participation and each is intended to stimulate a sense of wonder and surprise. Participating artists: JD Beltran, Jon Brumit, Hector Dio Mendoza, Chris Eckert, Bill Fontana, Jordan Geiger, Helena Keefe, and the team of Chip Lord and Bruce Tomb. Complete project descriptions and current schedules of dates and locations may be found at www.w1w2.org.

About the Office of Cultural Affairs Public Art Program

The City of San Jose Public Art Program seeks to build community identity by initiating artworks and exhibitions that enliven our community. Through active engagement between the artists and project stakeholders, public art strives to reflect the City's ethnic diversity, historic richness, and envision its present and future. www.sanjoseculture.org.

About VTA

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) is an independent special district responsible for bus, light rail and paratransit operations; congestion management; specific highway improvement projects; and countywide transportation planning. As such, VTA is both an accessible transit provider and multi-modal transportation planning organization involved with transit, highways and roadways, bikeways and pedestrian facilities. For more information, please visit, www.vta.org.

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