



Santa Barbara  
**CONTEMPORARY ARTS FORUM**

**For Immediate Release.**

**Exhibitions:** *Michele O'Marah: Video Portraits* and *Home Show, Revisited*

**Opening Reception:**

**Saturday, May 21, 6:30 - 8 pm** Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum **FREE**

**On View\*:** **May 21 – July 17, 2011**, Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum **FREE**

**\*Please note special hours for these exhibitions listed at the end of the release.**

The Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum (CAF) presents a tour-de-force solo exhibition entitled *Michele O'Marah: Video Portraits*, together with an ambitious off-site project *Home Show, Revisited*. Both exhibitions explore the notion of home, site, and place.



Left to right: Michele O'Marah, Installation image of *a girl's got to do what a girl's got to do*, 2010, Kathryn Brennan Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, Dimensions variable. Photo: Robert Wedemeyer; Michele O'Marah, David Jones, and Tim Jackson, Installation image of *Faustus's Children*, 2006, Bard Center for Curatorial Studies, Annadale-on the Hudson, NY, 2008, Dimensions variable.

*Michele O'Marah: Video Portraits* will present the artist's well-known video portraits of Los Angeles-based artists, musicians, and friends, inspired by Andy Warhol's *Screen Tests* (1964-66). At CAF, O'Marah will create a full-room, multi-channel installation of these videos that reads as a larger-than-life portrait of her community. O'Marah's oeuvre explores the effects of popular culture, deconstructing in particular Hollywood genres and stereotypes, while involving the arts community as an active participant.

### *Home Show, Revisited*

Alongside O'Marah's exhibition, CAF's Executive Director and chief curator, Miki Garcia, asked O'Marah to co-curate *Home Show, Revisited*. For this wide-reaching program the curators invited 10 Los Angeles-based artists to reconsider the societal and cultural notion of "home" by creating site-specific installations in residences throughout Santa Barbara. Reprising two of CAF's most significant exhibitions — *Home Show* (1988) with the likes of Ann Hamilton, Joseph Kosuth, and Ursula von Rydingsvard and *Home Show<sup>2</sup>* (1996) with Dan Graham, Vito Acconci, and Pepon Osorio — the *Home Show, Revisited* features internationally acclaimed artists Piero Golia, Evan Holloway, Bettina Hubby, Florian Morlat, Kori Newkirk, Jennifer Rochlin, Ry Rocklen, Kirsten Stoltmann, Stephanie Taylor, and



Ry Rocklen, *Pipe Dreams 2*, 2010, Canopy bed frame, mattress, and pipes, 11 ft. 5 in. x 10 ft. x 10 ft.

Jennifer West. Homes will be open to the public Friday - Saturday: 11 am - 5 pm and Sunday: noon - 5 pm throughout the run of the exhibition. Jennifer West's installation at home #9 will be on view until 9 pm. Visitors to CAF will be given a map and directions for the art installation tour.

**About the Artist:**

Los Angeles-based artist Michele O'Marah received her B.F.A. from the Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia, PA. O'Marah is represented by Brennan & Griffin in New York, NY. Her work has been exhibited at the London Institute of Contemporary Art, London, UK; Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, San Diego, CA; and the CCAC Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, San Francisco, CA.

**Exhibition Hours:**

*Michele O'Marah: Video Portraits:* Tuesday - Saturday: 11 am - 5 pm, Sunday: noon - 5 pm

*Home Show, Revisited:* Friday - Saturday: 11 am - 5 pm, Sunday: noon - 5 pm

Jennifer West's film at home #9 will be on view until 9 pm.

Special thanks to: Candice Assassi, Carpinteria, CA; *Casa Magazine*, Santa Barbara, CA; David Court and Christi Westerhouse, Santa Barbara, CA; Candyce Eoff, Santa Barbara, CA; ForYourArt, Los Angeles, CA; Betsy Gallery, Santa Barbara, CA; Michael and Nancy Gifford, Montecito, CA; **The James Irvine Foundation**, San Francisco, CA; Elaine LeVasseur, Santa Barbara, CA; Andy Perry, Carpinteria, CA; Doug and Marian McKenzie, Montecito, CA; *Santa Barbara Independent*; *Santa Barbara News-Press*; James Van Arsdale and Kimberly Hahn, Santa Barbara, CA; and Wayne McCall & Associates, Santa Barbara, CA.

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**About the Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum:** The Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum (CAF) is a non-profit, non-collecting alternative art space dedicated to the exhibition, education, and cultivation of the arts of our time. Celebrating its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2011, CAF is the premier venue for contemporary art between Los Angeles and San Francisco. CAF is located at the Paseo Nuevo Mall Upper Arts Terrace in downtown Santa Barbara, CA. CAF is open Tuesday - Saturday: 11 am - 5 pm, Sunday: noon - 5 pm.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND VISUAL IMAGERY CONTACT: Kimberly Hahn (805) 403 - 8108 [press@sbcac.org](mailto:press@sbcac.org)**

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