



ESTEBAN SABAR GALLERY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“Environmental Surrealism” in February Exhibition at Oakland’s Esteban Sabar Gallery

OAKLAND, Calif. (January 16, 2007) — Echoing concerns regarding the environment’s degradation, artists Guy Colwell and Michelle Waters explore our unnatural relationships to nature in an exhibit at Esteban Sabar Gallery from February 2nd to February 26th, 2007.

Guy Colwell

By literally pulling subject matter out of a bag and puzzling pictures from these randomly selected elements, Guy Colwell paints unlikely encounters between wild animals and people within human environments such as subways and theaters.

While often leading to humorous reflections on alienation between humans and the natural world, Colwell’s “mammalian encounters” carry an undercurrent of environmental awareness as animals face with the challenge of ever growing human presence in their own environments.

Michelle Waters

Michelle Waters humorously places the power of change into the paws of animals by anthropomorphizing them and arming them with chainsaws, jackhammers and other emblems of environmental destruction. In this provocatively topsy-turvy world, animals take control the planet’s fate by physically reclaiming it from the human race.

Waters’ anthropomorphized animals include grizzly bears with jackhammers, hawks with chainsaws and a mountain lion with an acetylene torch deconstructing industrial objects such as dams, tractors and other man-made inventions.

In Waters’ painting, “Global Warning,” arctic wildlife destroy a Hummer dealership while in “The Undevelopment Agency,” animals tear down roadside billboards that promote housing developments.

An environmental activist, Waters draws inspiration from Hieronymous Bosch’s apocalyptic imagery and from the writings of Edward Abbey, a hero to many environmentalists and patron saint of monkeywrenchers.

This exhibit runs through February 26th, 2007.

Estaban Sabar Gallery is located at 480 23rd Street (*at Telegraph Avenue*), Oakland, California, 94612

Regular Gallery hours are Monday, Thursday & Friday: 11am to 6pm; Saturday & Sunday: 12noon to 6pm; Tuesday and Wednesday: Closed.

For further information call 510/444-7411 or visit www.estebansabar.com.

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