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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **San Jose ICA Presents Crater Bay Area and work by Brendan Lott During the Second Biennial of 01SJ Global Festival of Art on the Edge**

April 3, 2008, SAN JOSE, Calif - The San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) presents two exhibitions that examine the role of authorship and representation in an increasingly digital world.

- In the Focus Gallery, the ICA opens *Crater Bay Area*, an interactive exhibition by Nora Ligorano and Marshall Reese that invites visitors to create renderings and interpretations of the lunar surface.
- In the Cardinale Project Room, the ICA hosts *Memories I'll Never Have*, a solo presentation of Brendan Lott's project that raises questions about art and technology, authorship, globalization, and out-sourcing, among many others.
- Both exhibitions coincide with the second Biennial of 01SJ *Global Festival of Art on the Edge* in downtown San Jose June 4 - 8, 2008.

*Crater Bay Area* will be on view May 30 – August 2 and *Memories I'll Never Have* will be on view May 23 – August 2. The ICA will host an opening reception for both exhibitions on Friday, June 6, in conjunction with the 01SJ Street Fair, from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

### **Crater Bay Area**

Created by artist duo Nora Ligorano and Marshall Reese (Ligorano/Reese), *Crater Bay Area* is a drawing contest in which artists and non-artists alike will sketch the moon in a competition to win deeds of land on the moon. The contest takes place at the San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) from May 30 – August 2. A ten-foot scale model of the moon will be installed in the middle of the gallery to serve as the subject of the drawing contest. Visitors may sketch their unique moonscapes using either traditional drawing materials or digital tools. Each participant will have up to 30 minutes to create a drawing that will hang on the gallery walls for the duration of the exhibition. Additionally, these images will be hosted digitally on the ICA's website and in "Second Life." The winning submissions will be selected by a panel of esteemed judges, including artists, art critics, technologists, curators, and local celebrities. An award ceremony will convene on the evening of Friday, August 1 and the celebrated artists will receive certified deeds to a plot of land on the moon.



Ligarano/Reese's interactive exhibition explores mankind's enduring fascination with the moon, interest to identify and understand the unknown. *Crater Bay Area* also investigates imagination and the implications of virtual space. The project sets up a playful stage of engagement that relies on the creativity of the audience to make the images that will ultimately hang on the walls. It cleverly recontextualizes the storied tradition of the *plein air* landscape to include the depiction of a man-made reproduction of the lunar surface, while also evaluating the success of traditional hand drawing versus computer-aided design. In addition, the prized deed to land on the moon and the exhibition's simultaneous existence in the virtual world highlight the scarcity of affordable Bay Area real estate in "real life."

### ***Memories I'll Never Have***

Brendan Lott's solo show *Memories I'll Never Have* challenges notions of art and technology, authorship, globalization and out-sourcing in our digitally connected world. Lott culls photographs from Internet sharing networks and then sends jpegs to China where the images are reproduced as oil paintings. Introducing private moments to public audiences, the mundane and confrontational images raise questions of privacy, sexuality, labor and authorship in our technology-pervasive culture.



For more info about *Crater Bay Area*, the *01SJ Global Festival of Art*, and the work of Brendan Lott, including pictures, please contact Susan O'Malley at 408 283 8155 or visit: [www.sjica.org](http://www.sjica.org)

Image credits:

Nora Ligarano and Marshall Reese (Ligarano/Reese), Installation shot from *Crater New York*, 2007, Courtesy of the Artists

Brendan Lott, *Ecce Homo*, 2007, Oil on canvas, Courtesy of the Artist

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The San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) is dedicated to making contemporary art accessible and comprehensible to audiences of all ages and backgrounds through innovative and thought-provoking exhibitions that create a bridge between the artwork and the issues of everyday life. ICA hours: Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Thursday, 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.; Saturday, 12:00 – 5:00 p.m.; closed Sunday and Monday. Admission is free.

*The San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art gratefully acknowledges support from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the City of San Jose, the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Arts Council Silicon Valley, the Adobe Foundation Fund, Silicon Valley Community Foundation, and the members of the ICA.*