



**SOMARTS**  
cultural center

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SOMARTS CULTURAL CENTER PRESENTS**

## **Breathed ... Unsaid ...**

**March Exhibitions Program and Commons Curatorial Residency  
Award Winner 2010/2011**

**Exhibition:** Breathed ... Unsaid ...

**Guest Curator:** Katya Min of [Lumina Arts](#) and Ictus Gallery

**Opening Reception:** Saturday, March 5, 2011, 6:00 – 9:00 PM

**Exhibition Dates:** March 5 – March 31, 2011

**Gallery Hours:** Tuesday – Friday 12:00 – 7:00 PM, Saturday 12:00 – 5:00 PM

Press images available [here](#)

**San Francisco, CA, February 2, 2011** – SOMArts Cultural Center presents *Breathed ... Unsaid ...* a new month-long exhibition by local curator Katya Min, featuring twenty Bay Area multi-disciplinary artists exploring their personal encounters with cultural diaspora and the experience of living multiple and sometimes disparate lives. Featured local artists include [Victor Cartagena](#), Kevin B. Chen, [Taraneh Hemami](#), Kyoung-ah Kang's, [Alice Könitz](#), [Keba Konte](#), Chris Novak, [Tessie Barrera Scharaga](#), C. Ree, and [Joel B. Tan](#) with collaborator Nicholas Brinkley.

*Breathed ... Unsaid ...* is comprised of multiple large-scale sculptural and multimedia installations, including works in fabric, wood and metal, oil and acrylic paintings, mixed-media drawings, and hanging cloth and ready-made object sculptures with olfactory elements. One such installation by local San Francisco artist and member of the [Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence Joel B. Tan](#), is a multi-platform participatory installation emerging from a mechanics pit in the gallery floor simulating the often labyrinthine path one must take to self-discovery.

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San Jose artist [Tessie Barrera Scharaga](#) presents a multiple-component hanging installation comprised of a baby crib filled with coffee suspended



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from the ceiling surrounded by a grid of fifteen-foot tall hanging silkscreened banners. The aroma and the image of the coffee beans in the crib serve as a metaphor for the artist's former home in Central and South America. This work, among other similar experimental installations, investigates the themes of personal transference, geographies of origin, and places of arrival.

The opening night reception includes a special performance by Sasha Baskina in collaboration with Theo Knox and Lily Taylor titled *Birds of a Feather* involving a physical exploration of love and migration, with music and movement varying between rhythms of tenderness and intensity, and accompanied by spoken word by Sri Lankan poet [Pireeni Sundaralingam](#) and Irish violinist [Colm Ó Riain](#), exploring the rich interconnections between a host of lyrical traditions.

According to gallery director Justin Hoover, "SOMArts is excited to show this body of work because it effectively represents concepts of migrating and trans-identity arrival, an issue central to many Bay Area cultural communities. Furthermore, it does this through very high quality artwork, framed by the lens of the personal and the intimate."

#### Public Programming

**Opening Reception: March 5, 2011, 6:00 – 9:00 PM, words by gallery director and guest curator at 6:30, and a special performance *Birds of a Feather* by Sasha Baskina, Pireeni Sundaralingam and Colm Ó Riain at 7:00 PM**

*Birds of a Feather* incorporates movement and music by Baskina exploring love and migration followed by a performative duet of spoken word by Sundaralingam and violin by Riain, weaving together poetry and music, to explore the rich interconnections between a host of lyrical traditions that touch on the theme of diaspora.

**Breathed ... Unsaid ... Film Screening and Filmmaker Q & A: March 13, 2011, Noon – 8:00 PM**

This day long mini-film festival celebrates crossings and dismantling of symbolic, nationalistic, cultural, internal, and external borders. Many of these films are presented here for the first time and deal with strong social justice themes such as the restoration of civility within the criminal justice system, and personal/social recovery after national and man-made disasters.

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#### Film Schedule

12:00 PM – *City of Borders* (66 minutes), by award winning director Yun Suh



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1:15 PM – *Living Condition* (excerpt) (6 minutes) by Dee-Hibert-Jones and Nomi Talisman

1:30 PM – *Crepe Covered Sidewalks* (6 minutes) by acclaimed singer and actor Renee Wilson

2:40 – Short #2 TBA

3:00 – *The Wall* (65 minutes) by Ricardo Martinez

4:15 – *Forgotten War* (a work in progress 10 minutes and a prelude to *In the Matter of Cha Jung Hee*) by Deann Borshay Liem

4:30 – *The Matter of Cha Jung Hee* (64 minutes) by Deann Borshay Liem

6:00 – Q & A session with the filmmakers

7:00 – Reception with the filmmakers

**Parts of a (W)Hole: March 24, 2011, 7:00 – 9:00 PM**

Poetry readings by Joel B. Tan designed entirely around your, my, our (w)hole, and specifically located within the large hole (mechanics pit) in the floor of SOMArts Main Gallery.

**Artists' Talk and Closing Reception: March 31, 2011, 6:00 – 8:00 PM**

Featuring a special performance by Archana Sachdev in the style of a Bollywood dance party and accompanied by spoken word poetry reading of historic works by Rumi.

About Lumina Arts

Katya Min is the curator and director of Lumina Arts, an organization for artists who live in the world of transit between cultures, generations, and geographies as well as the curator for Ictus Gallery in San Francisco. Lumina Arts is created to give space for the emergence of a new vocabulary of experience and commits to artists across time as they find the vehicles to convey their insight and cultivate their practice. Lumina Arts brings together artists who attempt to show all of us how we can freely go back and forth, regardless of the lingering borders, internal and external and create new spaces for understanding.

Lumina Arts is one of four recipients of a 2010-11 Commons Curatorial Residency at SOMArts. Selected artists and curators receive funding support and access to one of the largest and most beautiful gallery spaces in the heart of the city in order to expand their practice, engage the Bay Area's many cultural communities, and turn vision into reality.

SOMArts programming receives support from the Community Arts and Education Program of the San Francisco Arts Commission.

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SOMArts exhibitions and events are **FREE** (unless otherwise advertised).



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Enter down long driveway. Street parking available and flat rate parking is accessible at Brannan & 8th St. SOMArts is within two blocks of the Muni lines number 12, 19, 27 and 47.

[www.somarts.org](http://www.somarts.org)

#### **ABOUT SOMARTS CULTURAL CENTER**

Insurrection, Connection and Community through the Arts

SOMArts Cultural Center (South of Market Art Resources, Technology, and Services) maintains one of four cultural facilities owned by the City of San Francisco and operated by nonprofit arts organizations. SOMArts serves approximately 450,000 people with its year-round schedule of community arts classes, theatrical performances, gallery exhibitions and technical services' support of festivals and parades throughout the city.

SOMArts also provides affordable event space for local nonprofit organizations to present showcases, fundraisers and exhibitions. For more information about upcoming events, space rentals and technical services, visit [www.somarts.org](http://www.somarts.org) or call 415-863-1414.

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