

**MAN AS OBJECT: REVERSING THE GAZE NOV. 4 - NOV. 30, 2011 SOMARTS CULTURAL CENTER**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**MAN AS OBJECT: REVERSING THE GAZE  
OPENS at SOMARTS CULTURAL CENTER  
NOV. 4 - NOV. 30, 2011**

**WOMEN ARTISTS LOOK AT MEN AND MASCULINITY**

**ART EXHIBITION RE-ENVISIONS GENDER, SOCIETY AND THE POLITICS OF EXPOSURE**



San Francisco, CA - *Man as Object: Reversing the Gaze* is an exhibition that re-envision's gender, society and the politics of exposure. With a gallery filled with men stripped naked, this body of work exposes women's cheeky, provocative and sometimes shocking commentaries on the opposite sex. The exhibition's contemporary scope encompasses all the ways that women view Man-as-Object, reversing the traditional view of male artists objectifying women. Its diverse perspectives on masculinity come from straight, transsexual, transgender, lesbian and multi-cultural artists through a spectrum of media, from paintings to sculpture, installations to performance, video to social media. The show's extensive collection of male adoration, male impersonation and male appendages may make the viewer squirm a little. But that is precisely the point. The more than 100 women artists in the exhibition unapologetically reveal how they really see men. Through this public display at SOMArts Cultural Center, the show's organizers aim to equalize the gaze between the sexes.

San Francisco State University Assistant Professor Tanya Augsburg selected 117 pieces from 900 submissions for presentation in the SOMArts Cultural Center gallery on behalf of Karen Gutfreund and Priscilla Otani, recipients of the 2011 SOMArts Cultural Center Curatorial Residency Award. The show will travel in part to the Kinsey Institute Gallery in April 2012. Showing at SOMArts Cultural Center, 934 Brannan Street, San Francisco, CA., 11/4 – 11/30/11, Tues-Fri 12-7 p.m.; Sat 12-5 p.m.

**Sponsors**

*Man as Object: Reversing the Gaze* is sponsored by Women's Caucus for Art and made possible through grants and assistance from SOMArts Cultural Center, the San Francisco Arts Commission and the San Francisco Foundation.

**Publication**

*Man as Object: Reversing the Gaze* is accompanied by a full color catalog by Tanya Augsburg and Karen Gutfreund, with essays from Lynn Hershman Leeson, Annie Sprinkle and others.

**Exhibition-related Programs:**

**Friday, Nov 4 2011 6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. Opening Reception, Artwork Dedication, & Performance**

6:30 P.M. Artwork Dedication of Sylvia Sleigh's work, *Lawrence and Susana Delgado*, to Mills College.

7:30 P.M. Performance artist Chanel Matsunami Govreau will perform her new work *Hapa Bruthas*. This performance will explore Hapa male and Asian male sexuality, brotherhood, and the effects of interracial dating in Asian American communities from a mixed-Asian woman's perspective.

**Sunday, Nov 13, 2011 12:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M. Peepshow Drawing Circle & Performance**

Reprise of Chanel Matsunami Govreau's performance, *Hapa Bruthas*.

Image: *Superman Underpants* by Molly Marie Nuzzo, from *Man as Object: Reversing the Gaze*.

Peepshow Drawing Circle: this event features live nude male model placed in the gallery's "hole," which will be converted into a man-cave. The male model will be drawn by the public and all drawings will be exhibited onsite for the event, then taken home by the artists.

**Wednesday, Nov 30 2011 6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. Closing Reception, Screening & Discussion Panel**  
6:15 & 6:30 P.M. Screening of *Fuses*, historic feminist film by Carolee Schneemann in SOMArts theater

7:00 P.M. *Looking at Men: Then & Now*, panel discussion with Annie Sprinkle, Carolee Schneemann and Tanya Augsburg.

**For comment:**

Karen Gutfreund, WCA Exhibitions Director, [karengutfreundexhibitions@yahoo.com](mailto:karengutfreundexhibitions@yahoo.com)

Tanya Augsburg, Assistant Professor of Liberal Studies (Creative Arts and Humanities), San Francisco State University, [tanya@sfsu.edu](mailto:tanya@sfsu.edu)

**Additional Resources:**

Man as Object: Reversing the Gaze  
Official Exhibition Website  
<http://manasobject.weebly.com/>

List of Exhibiting Artists, Man as Object: Reversing the Gaze  
<http://manasobject.weebly.com/exhibition.html>

Calendar of Events, Man as Object: Reversing the Gaze  
<http://manasobject.weebly.com/calendar.html>

Exhibition Catalog, Man as Object: Reversing the Gaze  
<http://manasobject.weebly.com/catalog.html>

National Women's Caucus for Art  
<http://nationalwca.org/>

SOMArts Cultural Center  
<http://www.somarts.org/>

The Kinsey Institute Gallery, Bloomington, IN  
<http://www.kinseyinstitute.org/services/gallery.html>

Image: Superman Underpants by Molly Marie Nuzzo, from Man as Object: Reversing the Gaze. For more images, visit <http://manasobject.weebly.com/press.html>