



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 1, 2007

OMCA Off-Site Presents

KRISHNA KHALSA AND CYNTHIA ONA INNIS

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:

WHAT: OMCA Off-Site Exhibition – the sculpture of Krishna Khalsa and the paintings and sculpture of Cynthia Ona Innis

WHERE: **Gallery 555, 555 12th Street (at Clay) Oakland, CA**

WHEN: Aug 16 – Nov 2, 2007
Monday through Friday 7 am – 6 p.m.; First Friday 7am – 9pm;
Third Thursdays 7 am – 8 pm
Reception: Aug 16, 2007 5 pm - 7 pm

PHOTOS: For photo requests, please email ps@museumca.org

Oakland Museum of California Off-Site Exhibits is proud to present the work of Krishna Khalsa and Cynthia Ona Innis. While very different in form and medium, both artists are engaged with their individual materials in an intuitive and process-oriented way. Major themes of trans-formation and structure are evident in each of their works.

Krishna Khalsa's site-specific installation, *Anisotropic*, fills the cavernous space of Gallery 555 with a series of towering wood constructions that mimic the granite columns of the building. The material of *Anisotropic* began as standard two by fours, which Khalsa cut into smaller, less uniform pieces. Stacked and nailed together, the wood takes on a woven, organic form. Installed in key locations throughout the lobby, the structures have the potential to alter the way one moves through the space.

Krishna Khalsa received a MFA in Studio Art from Mills College in Oakland, CA. Her work has been shown at the Headlands Center for the Arts and Mission 17.

Cynthia Ona Innis creates images of cell-like forms and organic patterns intersecting with finely drawn lines over soft washes of color. The paintings are marked and stained with fleshy earth tones – rich browns, crimson reds, pale pinks – referencing the human body and nature. Oblong pieces of satin are applied to

the surface of the paintings in clusters; flocks of butterflies and biomorphic shapes suggest organic transformation and reproduction on a cellular level. The most recent piece in the exhibit, *Core, 2*, takes the biological narrative out of the picture plane as tubular satin forms rise off the floor in mass sculptural groupings.

Cynthia Ona Innis received a MFA in Painting from Rutgers University. Her work is included in many public collections including the Berkeley Art Museum, San Jose Museum of Art, Newark, NJ Public Library and the Microsoft Corporation. Innis is represented by Walter Maciel Gallery in Los Angeles, CA.

This exhibition is presented by the Oakland Museum of California in partnership with Shorenstein Realty Services. The exhibition is part of a changing exhibition series at Oakland City Center and represents an ongoing collaboration between the museum and Shorenstein to showcase contemporary artists. Gallery 555 is located on the lobby level of 555 12th Street.

Gallery 555 is managed by the Oakland Museum of California's Professional Services Division. Professional Services is a museum department that shares the institution's resources with the community by developing fine art and artifact exhibitions in public venues. For more information, please go to www.museumca.org/off-site.

Oakland City Center is a focal point for commercial and government activity in downtown Oakland. For more information about Oakland City Center, go to www.oaklandcitycenter.com.

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