

S O U T H E R N E X P O S U R E

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SOEX OFFSITE: THE GRAUE AWARD

Southern Exposure announces a \$50,000 gift from the Graue Family Foundation and an opportunity for artists to realize new public projects in the Bay Area.



San Francisco, CA, April 13, 2010 - Southern Exposure is pleased to announce a \$50,000 gift from the Graue Family Foundation to support its public art initiative *SoEx Off-Site* and the creation of a new public art award, *The Graue Award*. This new award will allow Southern Exposure to offer an annual \$15,000 prize to an emerging artist to develop and create a new public art project in the San Francisco Bay Area.

"We are grateful to the Graue Family Foundation for supporting this new initiative of our important public art program, founded in 2005, which is one of the few opportunities in the Bay Area that encourages artists to develop new groundbreaking works in the public realm." said Courtney Fink, Executive Director. "This program not only provides a significant opportunity for artists to realize large-scale projects, it helps Southern Exposure to share new art with new audiences in unexpected locations."

With the support of The Graue Family Foundation, Southern Exposure will commission two major public projects in the Bay Area in 2011 and 2012 through two, annual open calls for proposals. In each round of this program, SoEx will select one project for realization and offer a \$15,000 award. The winning projects will be selected by a jury of artists who sit on Southern Exposure's Curatorial Committee.

SoEx Off-Site, founded in 2005, seeks to commission and present new work by emerging artists that intervenes and interacts in the social and political spheres beyond the space of gallery. SoEx supports and encourages these practices as few venues support emerging artists working in the public realm. The artists selected through the program will make a proposal and develop and present their work in the San Francisco Bay Area. Previous experience of working in public spaces is not essential for selection in this program.

This new phase of SoEx Off-Site re-affirms Southern Exposure's commitment to supporting artists working in the public realm. Southern Exposure has commissioned and presented public projects with a wide range of artists including Neighborhood Public Radio, Lee Walton, Glowlab, Kate Pocrass/Mundane Journeys, The San Francisco Bureau of Urban Secrets, Red76, Instant Coffee, Packard Jennings, Natalie Jeremijenko, Futurefarmers, Rebar, Preemptive Media, Bruce Tomb, Christian Nold, and more.

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ABOUT SOUTHERN EXPOSURE

Southern Exposure (SoEx) is a nonprofit visual arts organization founded in 1974 that supports emerging artists and youth in a dynamic environment in which they can develop and present new work and ideas. An active presence in the Bay Area for 35 years, the organization evolves in response to the needs of artists and the community, engaging the public in the artists' work. Activities range from exhibitions of local, regional, and international visual artists' work, education programs, and lectures, panel discussions, and performances. Southern Exposure is dedicated to giving artists-whether they are exhibiting, curating, teaching, or learning-an opportunity to realize ideas for projects that may not otherwise find support. Southern Exposure supports artists through three main program areas including the Exhibitions Program, Artists in Education Program and Alternative Exposure Grant Program/Artists Resources Program.

For more information and images, contact Courtney Fink at (415) 863-2141 or director@soex.org. Southern Exposure is located at 3030 20th Street (at Alabama), San Francisco, CA 94110. Office Hours are Monday through Friday from 10 am to 6 pm and Gallery Hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 12 to 6 pm. Admission is always FREE. Website: www.soex.org.