



## San Francisco Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Community Center and Queer Cultural Center



### Media Advisory

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### San Francisco LGBT Community Center and Queer Cultural Center host three Visual Arts Exhibits

(San Francisco, CA November 16, 2009) The San Francisco Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Community Center and the Queer Cultural Center are proud to present three solo visual arts exhibitions throughout the Center's facility at 1800 Market Street, San Francisco from December 1, 2009 – January 14, 2010. Featured artists include Jamie McHugh, Toban Nichols and Ron L. Zheng. A free reception for the community will be held on December 1, 2009 from 5:30pm – 7:30pm at the Center.

Presented on the Center's 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor:

#### **“NatureBeingArt: Large-Format Images from the Coast” by Jamie McHugh**

“Through this exhibit I bring attention to the compelling ephemeral aesthetic of nature on this mysterious planet,” says McHugh. “I am not a ‘documenter’ of nature with photography, but more a ‘co-creator’, rendering nature not as figurative or static landscape, but as dynamic dance of light, motion, color and form.” Images presented are minimally altered and are not digital composites nor are they color saturated. What is seen is what Jamie saw – “a constant reminder of life on a magnificent planet that simply needs our attention to truly appreciate its creativity.”

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

Presented on the Center's 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor and Gallery:

#### **“Leaving My Found Eden: A Poetography Exhibit” by Ron L. Zheng**

*Poetography* is a new art form merging traditional Japanese and Chinese cultures with contemporary urban life, merging English-language tanka poetry with photographic

imagery to create a dynamic tension that infuses new meanings into the words. Zheng created this collection after having to leave the United States, his adopted home, his found Eden. “Leaving the place you love is always hard, especially when you have called it home for over half of your life,” says Zheng. “It is even more painful when the person you love is still there.” Black and white, coarse and refined, the poetography images are photographed on 35mm film and printed on canvas. The form of the poems is traditional, but the narratives depict moments from contemporary western life.

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

Presented on the Center’s 4<sup>th</sup> Floor:

**“Tragedy Collection” by Toban Nichols**

Destruction, Manipulation and the heavy pixilation of an already distorted view make up “The Tragedy Collection”. The freezing in time of beauty, caught at an awkward moment stolen out of context only to be reinterpreted on a large scale for amusement of the detached. Toban Nichols, deconstructive artist and former San Francisco resident, plans a jarring takeover of the Center’s 4<sup>th</sup> floor lobby. His medium favors bright color, along with databending and media manipulation, with a keen eye focused on both current and nostalgic popular culture moments and icons.

[www.tobannichols.com](http://www.tobannichols.com)

**Exhibits are on display during Center operating hours: Monday through Thursday 12noon – 10pm, Fridays 12noon – 6pm and Saturdays 9am – 6pm. Admission is Free.**

**About the Queer Cultural Center**

Founded in 1993 Queer Cultural Center (Qcc) is a multidisciplinary arts presenting, producing and community-building organization that conducts artistic and interpretive programs exploring queer identity issues. Our programs promote the careers of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender artists and foster the growth of queer artists and arts organizations. By presenting, exhibiting and screening queer artists' work Qcc contributes a multicultural perspective on the Lesbian/Gay/ Bisexual and Transgender experience. Visit [www.queerculturalcenter.org](http://www.queerculturalcenter.org) to tour the virtual gallery or to learn about Qcc performances, screenings and shows exhibiting elsewhere.

**About the San Francisco LGBT Community Center**

The San Francisco LGBT Community Center is the home, heart and hands of the Bay Area lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. The Center is dedicated to building community, creating opportunity and securing equality for all. Our vision for the future is a LGBT community united by common purpose, celebrating our history, culture and diversity, while ensuring that no one is left behind. Each month, The Center serves over 9,000 visitors and hosts more than 400 events. The Center is located at 1800 Market Street in San Francisco. Visit the Center at [www.sfcenter.org](http://www.sfcenter.org) or call us at (415) 865-5555, to learn more.

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