



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Photos available on request

**SOMARTS CULTURAL CENTER'S MAIN GALLERY PRESENTS**

## **Unfurling: This Land**

Exhibition: Nov 5 – 27, 2009

Opening Reception: Thursday, Nov 5, 6–11 P.M.

Closing Reception: Friday, Nov 27, 6-11 P.M.

SOMArts Main Gallery

934 Brannan St, San Francisco, CA 94103

Gallery hours: Tuesday-Friday, 2–7 p.m., Saturday 12–5 p.m.

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

San Francisco, CA, October 8th, 2009—SOMArts Cultural Center's Main Gallery presents *Unfurling: This Land*, a group show featuring Mark Bode, Isabel Rucker, and Mike Dingle, producing new work around the themes of imaginary worlds, exploration, travel, relocation, time and transformation. This show includes new pencil drawings by Mark Bode, stemming from the historic graphic novel *Cobalt 60*, Mike Dingle's *I See the Future*, a massive collage work consisting of found objects combined into the general shape of the United States, and finally Isabel Rucker's *Unfurled*, a 400 foot long hand drawn autobiographical comic strip depicting her transition from urban life in SF to a rural existence deep off the grid in Wyoming.

About the artists and the artworks:

Isabel Rucker, coming from the Dogpatch neighborhood, creates a meandering saga *Unfurling* as an autobiographical graphic novel stretching over 400 feet long and 12 inches wide drawn in black ink with watery washes. The viewing of this epic comic is a unique experience, requiring the movement of the viewer in order to take in certain panels over 10 feet long. Navigation of the work becomes an experience. Visit the gallery as it restructures its space to accommodate the entirety of this one of a kind comic strip. The comic panels are vary in length to mirror pauses, vast scenery, the lengthy feelings of isolation experienced in deep winter, or the fervency of excited thought patterns.

<http://isabelrucker.com>

Mark Bode, from the upper mission, makes pencil drawings to set the stage for the next chapter in the ongoing *Cobalt 60* saga. This graphic novel was first started by his father Vaughn Bode in 1968, and carried on by Mark since 1983 and has spawned a global graffiti following. Plus, this novel has been picked up by Universal Studios and is soon to be a major motion picture directed by Zack Snyder of *Watchmen* and *300*.

<http://www.markbode.com/>

Mike Dingle, from the lower Haight, produces *I See the Future USA*, a monumental collage at 18 X 12 feet, made of mixed media roughly in the shape of the continental United States. This work was created in the late

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1970's and early 1980's out of flotsam and jetsam found in the San Francisco Bay. Concurrently in the gallery Dingle will be creating another updated piece on a similar scale, with the help of any who wish to contribute. Materials will be provided for public applique/participation during gallery hours.

Lastly, we look forward to seeing you for the opening reception where we will be dancing and DJing. Come enjoy refreshments and the fresh beats of Big Daddy, DJ Cuba, and Dion Deubles, time-sharing the tables between 6 and 11 PM. There will be a closing reception on Friday November 27<sup>th</sup> from 6-11 PM.

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

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 to provide cultural and arts programs with support from the Hotel Tax Fund and the Community Arts & Education program of the San Francisco Arts Commission. 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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