

## PRESS RELEASE

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JPEG available online

Exhibition: February 16 – June 19, 2009  
Artist reception: Friday, May 1, 2009, 5 – 7:00 p.m.

### LATE MONDAY AFTERNOON: EXPLORATIONS OF TIME, PLACE, AND HUMAN RELATIONS

SAN JOSE, CA - Orchard Commercial North First ARTSpace presents "*Late Monday Afternoon*," an art exhibition featuring landscapes and cityscapes, exterior places and interior spaces. The exhibition features paintings, sculpture, screen prints, and digital photographs from Kirkman Amyx, Alejandra Chaverri, Barbara Collins, Karen Haas, Sarah Lowe, Hilary Williams, and Alayne Yellum—artwork from emerging and established Bay Area artists that consider the relationship of our physical environment, whether real or imaginary, to the human experience, exploring the various ways we connect and respond to our physical world. The exhibition opened on February 16 and will run through June 19, 2009. An artist reception is planned for Friday, May 1 from 5 – 7:00 p.m. Daily visiting hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

*"At the Orchard North First ARTSpace venue, we support local artists, encourage community involvement in the arts, and provide a model for other commercial buildings in the San Jose area."*

- Joe Lewis, President of Orchard Commercial

*"I appreciate viewing works of different levels of sophistication, united by an exhibition theme. You have to think about the theme with regards to the work, especially when viewing "Basic Cable" by Kirkman Amyx, an image that is based on digitally capturing a week's worth of cable TV. . . my favorite work in the exhibition."*

- Karen Haas, Artist

**Kirkman Amyx**, a graduate student at San Jose State University, explores the essence of time and place and the flow of natural cycles in his series "3 Views." Amyx photographs the sky, a hill with oak trees, and poplar trees from three unique vantage points, every 15 minutes, day or night, rain or shine, for an entire year. Created from over 35,000 individual photographs, the elongated forms document the variations of changing light. "3 Views" is a study of the rhythm of nature and the structures and patterns of changing light and weather—a complete visualization of place, time, and life cycles.

In his series, "Basic Cable," **Kirkman Amyx** explores media over-saturation and the abundance of specialty programming. By capturing 7,200 digital images per week, and per channel, Amyx creates a unique visual representation featuring all 69 channels offered on Comcast basic cable broadcasting. For five consecutive days, digital images from each channel are captured at one-minute intervals beginning at 12:00 a.m. on Monday and ending at 11:59 p.m. on Friday. Amyx overlays the images so that the same moment in time corresponding with Monday through Friday programming appears in a single cell. By repeating this overlay process for each one-minute interval, Amyx visually represents the structure of basic cable programming in a formal grid pattern, providing a platform for socio-political commentary and discussions about the ramifications of non-stop media and television advertising.

In her series, "The Fury of Time," **Alejandra Chaverri** photographed Havana and Cienfuegos, observing city life and the people who lived there in often crowded conditions. During her stay, she took multiple shots of various architectural structures at different times of day. Her final prints, a combination of various perspectives and light, are stitched together using digital techniques and then printed on mulberry paper with encaustic. Her constructed images, often irregularly aligned with jagged, angular edges, remind us of current living conditions, each building visually captured in various states of disrepair and fragility.

**Barbara Collins** creates photomontages of unique places and vast spaces. She combines images of expansive natural spaces and manmade structures, such as cloud-filled skies at dusk, bridges, barns, and tombs, as observed from a distance, with detailed photographs of objects found nearby. Her seemingly abandoned buildings and open roads allude to human presence and feelings of loneliness of isolation.

**Karen Haas** paints scenes depicting private, family-oriented suburban homes in her "Backyard" series, as well as images of public places and local establishments near downtown San Jose. In "Yellow Dogs" and "Alameda Café," Haas brings us closer to living in San Jose, both the pleasures of city life as well as underlying sensations of psychological isolation. In "Yellow Dogs", people and animals gather together to play in the park on a hot summer day, however, it's unclear as to whether her unknown subjects are personally connecting and engaging with neighbors and friends, or simply living in their own individual worlds occupying a common area, just as a group of objects can be arranged on a picture plane. On close look, people unwittingly reveal attitudes and connections through body posture and spatial relationships.

**Sarah Lowe** has built an extravagant thermoformed plastic chandelier, a fanciful synthesis of decorative ornament and medical fact, resulting in an object with an encoded secret. The chandelier is formally based on auricular ornament, a seventeenth-century Dutch silversmith style. The van Vianen family, who developed this style, drew upon natural structures observed by early-modern anatomists and specimen-collectors. They carried their unique set of motifs from the Prague workshops of Holy Roman Emperor Rudolf II to the mercantile Netherlands, and on to the court of King

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Charles II in London. Lowe based the physical structure of her chandelier on a plague mortality data set from the London parish of St. Michael Bassishaw in 1665, gathered and modeled by Susan Scott and Christopher Duncan in *The Biology of Plagues*. Each arm of the chandelier is an individual, personal timeline from point of infection until death; the overall structure of the installation is an illustration of the spread of the disease through this tiny parish. The chandelier is a quantitative artifact in which Sarah Lowe has integrated data with form, encoding history into art in the most literal way.

**Hilary Williams** is interested in exploring ideas about the coexistence of urban environments, nature, and humanity. Living and working in San Francisco, Hilary spends hours walking around her neighborhood, taking photographs of buildings, architectural elements, telephone wires, and other evidence of urban living. Her photographs, along with her paintings and drawings are used to create stencils for her screen prints. Her bright, vibrant prints layer images of urban life over farm animals and other images depicting an imaginary rural and agricultural environment, images that were familiar to the San Francisco area many years ago.

**Alayne Yellum** paints images of home interiors including kitchens and living rooms, using symbols from both the animal world as well as domestic life, often bringing together elements in curious and vibrant relation. Large blenders and mixers, washing machines and ovens, and larger-than-life tomatoes and vacuums dominate her work. Gender, identity, and the purpose of living our lives are current themes in both her work and life. Intensely autobiographical and psychological in nature, Yellum uses a surreal painterly style and layers of color and glazes to evoke the shadow qualities of our memory.

### **About Orchard Commercial North First ARTSpace**

Orchard Commercial is Silicon Valley's most comprehensive commercial real estate operations company. We provide property management, leasing, construction, and mechanical services, specializing in high-tech R&D, office, warehouse, and manufacturing facilities. For more than 35 years, we've worked with investors, brokers, and developers to build value in Silicon Valley. Orchard Commercial possesses local expertise, unmatched customer service, and commitment to excellence.

Orchard maintains a long history of commitment to the Silicon Valley community. In May 2007, Orchard Commercial opened the North First ARTSpace, an alternative art exhibition venue located within a multi-tenant commercial building. Both emerging and established artists living and working in the Bay Area are considered for thematic group exhibitions. The North First ARTSpace presents up to four exhibitions each year for tenants and the community to enjoy. For more information about the Orchard Commercial North First ARTSpace, please visit: [www.orchardcommercial.com/about/north\\_first\\_artspace.html](http://www.orchardcommercial.com/about/north_first_artspace.html)

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**Visiting Orchard Commercial North First ARTSpace**

Address: 2665 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95134

Phone: 408-922-0400

Hours: Guests are welcome Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.; closed Saturday and Sunday

Admission: Free

Map and directions, please visit: [www.orchardcommercial.com](http://www.orchardcommercial.com)

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