

Mills College  
5000 MacArthur Blvd.  
Oakland, CA 94613  
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# MILLS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MILLS COLLEGE ART MUSEUM**  
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## Here and Now

Three Site-Specific Installations by Elaine Buckholtz,  
Floor Vahn, and Christine Wong Yap

Selected Dates: June 5-26, 2010

**Closing Reception: June 26, 8- 10 pm, Mills Hall**

Oakland, CA— The Mills College Art Museum is pleased to announce **Here and Now**, a series of site-specific installations in three historic Oakland buildings dating from the early inception of the State of California. Each site provides a relatively unchanged visual benchmark for the architecture of its period, with respective histories that reflect the early radical politics of the Bay Area. The participating artists have been commissioned to create new works that investigate the various inherent legacies of these locations. **Here and Now** is curated by Christian L. Frock presents Invisible Venue and is organized by the Mills College Art Museum. A closing reception with the artists will take place on June 26 from 8-10 pm at Mills Hall.

**Friday evenings, June 4, 11, 18, and 25, Sunset – 10 pm**

**Saturday evenings, June 5, 12, 19, and 26, Sunset – 10 pm**

Elaine Buckholtz, *Out of the Blue (Mills Hall Reconsidered)*, 2010. A site-specific light installation at Mills Hall (c.1871), Mills College, 5000 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland CA 94613

Mills Hall is the original school house of Mills College when it was established in Oakland in 1871. Initially formed in Benicia in 1852 and conceived as a college for women, it is one of the oldest liberal arts college on the West Coast. Influenced by an Eadweard Muybridge photograph from 1873 of students and faculty assembled on site, [Elaine Buckholtz's](#) site-specific light and video installation "Out of the Blue (Mills Hall Reconsidered)" will animate the exterior of Mills Hall on select weekend evenings in June. *This work will be freely visible as a drive-by experience in transit from an easily accessible circular driveway on campus.*

**Saturday, June 5, 12, 19, and 26, 2010 at 1, 2, and 3 pm**

Floor Vahn, *Sonic Pardee Home (Reconstituting Memories of Pardee Past)*, 2010. A site-specific sound installation at Pardee Home Museum (c.1868), 672 11<sup>th</sup> St., Oakland CA 94607.

The Pardee Home Museum in West Oakland was originally built and occupied by Enoch Pardee, an early public figure who served terms as Oakland mayor and California state assemblyman and

state senator. His son, George Pardee, was state governor during the famous 1906 earthquake that devastated San Francisco. The house was occupied by family of the original residents for more than 100 years until 1981—its unchanged interiors reflect both its unusually layered domestic history, but also that of the greater history of California and the progressive politics of its inhabitants. [Floor Vahn](#) will create three unique sound scores, "Sonic Pardee Home (Reconstituting Memories of Pardee Past)," that will draw on the real and imagined history of the house, installed as ambient sound within various rooms. *This sound installation will be accessible during scheduled tours on all four Saturdays in June at 1, 2 and 3pm. Tours are \$5/person.*

**One-day event Saturday, June 5, 2010, 12-4 pm**

Christine Wong Yap, *The Great Balloon Giveaway*, 2010. A site-specific installation and social sculpture at Camron-Stanford House (c.1876), 1418 Lakeside Dr., Oakland, CA 94612.

Camron-Stanford House was built during the early development of Oakland. [Christine Wong Yap's](#) "The Great Balloon Giveaway," is a one-day free event and social sculpture set to take place on Saturday, June 5. This work is inspired by imagery from the recent Oscar-winning animated film "Up" and includes the free distribution of 1,000 helium balloons to passersby, with volunteer youth assistance from Chinatown community organization [City of Oakland's Lincoln Square Recreation Center](#). T-shirts sponsored by Oakland-based retailer [FLINC](#). Beverages for the volunteers donated by Trader Joe's, Lakeshore.

A map detailing locations and hours for each project will be published by Mills College Art Museum and available to download from [www.invisiblevenue.com](http://www.invisiblevenue.com) and [www.mills.edu/museum](http://www.mills.edu/museum). Each site will also feature a link to Alternative Oakland, an online map of the curator's short-list of historic architecture, public art projects and other sights to see while visiting.

Christian L. Frock is an independent curator and writer. Invisible Venue, the alternative enterprise that she founded and has directed since 2005, collaborates with artists to present art in unexpected settings. Frock holds a Master's degree in curatorial practice from Goldsmiths College, University of London. She is a regular contributor to Art Practical, art ltd, and SFArts.org. Critical assessments of her work have appeared in *Artillery*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, and *Camerawork Journal*, among other publications.

Image: Eadweard Muybridge, British, 1830-1904, *Mills Seminary, Seminary Park, Alameda County, CA*, c. 1873. Albumen print. Collection Mills College Art Museum. Photo: Paul Kuroda.

The Mills College Art Museum, founded in 1925, is a dynamic center for art that focuses on the creative work of women as artists and curators. The museum strives to engage and inspire the diverse and distinctive cultures of the Bay Area by presenting innovative exhibitions by emerging and established national and international artists. Exhibitions are designed to challenge and invite reflection upon the profound complexities of contemporary culture.

Admission is free for all exhibitions and programs unless noted. For more information, please email [christian@invisiblevenue.com](mailto:christian@invisiblevenue.com) or [chinn@mills.edu](mailto:chinn@mills.edu); visit <http://www.mills.edu/museum/>

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