

News Release

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inSITE2000's Opening Weekend – Oct. 13-15 – Provides Opportunities To Participate, Investigate and Celebrate

The San Diego opening, Oct. 13, features outdoor concert/dance by Revelations, Gato Loco, Banda Gaya and FUSSIBLE at The ReinCarnation Project

The Tijuana opening, Oct. 14, features cocktail reception at the Centro Cultural Tijuana and a free concert by Café Tacuba at the municipal center

SAN DIEGO/TIJUANA – inSITE2000 – which is more a menu of unique cultural experiences than a contemporary art exhibition – will open with a barrage of activity Oct. 13-15 on both sides of the border.

San Diego's opening celebration will be 6 p.m. to midnight, Friday, Oct. 13, at The ReinCarnation Project, 1081 J Street, Downtown. The celebration will include 'performance interventions' arranged by Sushi Performance and Visual Art and continuous entertainment by the Brazilian, Mexican and American bands, Revelations, Gato Loco, Banda Gaya and FUSSIBLE.

"This will be a celebration rather than an opening," said Michael Krichman, inSITE's executive director/US. "inSITE2000 has been three years in the making, it has involved hundreds of people and tens of thousands of hours by artists, staff members and volunteers. This is a celebration in the fullest sense of the word and we're inviting the whole region to share our enthusiasm in a street-party setting," he said.

General admission to the party is \$18 at the door or \$15 in advance. Special tickets, priced at \$75, will include a buffet and hosted bar in a private lounge at Sushi. Information and reservations are available from the inSITE2000 office, (619) 544-1482. Tickets are also available through Sushi at (619) 235-8468.

The Tijuana opening, Saturday, Oct. 14, will commence at 7 p.m. with a reception at the Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paseo de los Heroes y Mina, Zona Rio, Tijuana. The reception is free and open to the public. It will be followed at 9 p.m. by a free outdoor concert by Café Tacuba, at the esplanade of the Palacio Municipal.

"The best way to approach inSITE is to explore our two information/project sites, called in(fo)SITES," said Krichman. "They feature several inSITE projects and are resource centers with information about artists, projects, project sites and public programs. The downtown San Diego in(fo)SITE is located in the Spreckels Theater Building at 923 First Ave. It will be open Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. throughout inSITE2000. The Tijuana in(fo)SITE, located at the Centro Cultural Tijuana, is open daily, except Monday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The in(fo)SITES, themselves, are a project of architect and artist Héctor Pérez.

Seventeen new works, including two one-time-only performance pieces, will open during the inaugural weekend. Projects will range from new media and installation to performance and spectacle, film and video.

To enable the public to fully experience inSITE2000, the organizers have designated the opening weekend and three other weekends as "Exploration Weekends", in which a number of performances, special events and public programs are concentrated. A variety of one- and two-day guided tours called "Expeditions" will be available on those weekends. One-day Expeditions, including lunch, start at \$40 (or \$25 for students). Future Exploration Weekends are scheduled for Nov. 17-19, Jan. 19-21 and Feb. 23-25. During the Exploration Weekends, the public has the choice of joining an organized expedition or arranging their own transportation.

The following performances are scheduled for the opening weekend of inSITE2000.

The Rules of the Game, a sports event/performance by Mexico City artist Gustav Artigas, will take place in the gymnasium at Lázaro Cardenas School, Avenida Paseo de los Heroes 11161, Zona Rio, Tijuana, at 1 p.m., Oct. 13. *The Rules of the Game* will feature two Mexican soccer teams and two US basketball teams playing against one another simultaneously on the same court. The event is based on the possibility or impossibility that the teams will discover ways to co-exist, each playing their own game in the same space. Artigas' project is open to the public with no charge.

Glen Wilson, a Los Angeles-based artist, will present the first installment of his improvisational digital video projection, *Interstice: 2001: The Nomad Project*, on Oct. 13 at 8 p.m. at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Broadway, in downtown San Diego. The projections have been and will be filmed throughout Southern California and Tijuana. Filmed glimpses of an enigmatic nomad will be interwoven with portraits of individuals who live, work and move amidst time-lapsed sequences of the region's urban and natural landscapes. The video projection is free and open to the public.

Chilean artist Alfredo Jaar's project, *The Cloud*, will take place Oct.14 at 10 a.m. in Tijuana's Goat Canyon, located 1/4 mile before the entrance to Playas de Tijuana on Avenida International. *The Cloud* will be a ceremonial event in memory of those who have died trying to cross the border between Mexico and the United States during the past 10 years. The ceremony/performance, open to the public with no charge, will feature more than 1,000 large white balloons suspended above the border. In collaboration with local organizations that work with immigrants, *The Cloud* will be released at the conclusion of the ceremony.

Fourteen other new works that will be on view throughout inSITE's 19-weeks will be introduced during the opening weekend. Pieces on view at the in(fo)SITES in San Diego and Tijuana include Sylvia Gruner's two-part video in which she investigates herself as "a cross-cultural, binational site"; and the documentation of Diego Gutierrez's artistic intervention that involved "introducing himself" to a neighborhood on each side of the border through series of packages left on front porches.

Several projects can be viewed on both sides of the border, including Jordan Crandall's *Heat-Seeking*, a film made with technologies that are used to police the US/Mexico border; and Valeska Soares' project *Picturing Paradise*, an examination of the relationship of the two border cities, located on both sides of the border fence at Playas de Tijuana and Border Field State Park.

The San Diego projects include Mark Dion's work, *Blind/Hide*, a bird blind and resource center located at the Tijuana River Estuary Reserve; and Vitaly Komar and Alex Melamid's project, on view at the San Diego Museum of Art in Balboa Park, that involved extensive surveys in San Diego and Tijuana, resulting in their creation of the "most wanted painting" for each city. (Their paintings will be on view at Centro Cultural Tijuana Jan.19 - Feb. 28, 2001)

The Tijuana-based projects that will open Sept. 13 include: Alberto Caro Limón's project, the creation of a new park for the community of El Solar at the Centro Social Infonavit; Roman de Salvo's game-station kiosk at the Pasaje Gomez market in Tijuana; and Mauricio Dias and Walter Riedweg's video, *MAMA*, based on their work with U.S. customs officers who use dogs to detect contraband and immigrants attempting to cross the border illegally, at the pedestrian crossing into Mexico at San Ysidro.

Other inSITE2000 works include Jeffrey Vallance's project that involves the introduction of three new wax figures into the permanent displays of the Tijuana Wax Museum (First Street, between Avenida Revolución and Madero/Fee \$15.00 pesos) and Arturo Cuenca's billboard presentation, *You Are Aqui*, that involves satellite tracking of local vehicles. It will be visible to cars going north through the San Ysidro border crossing.

Information on all projects and reservations for the opening party in San Diego is available from the inSITE2000 offices in San Diego at (619) 544-1482 and in Tijuana at 6.684.0095

Complete information, including progress reports on projects and a complete calendar of events is available on the inSITE2000 website, <www.inSITE2000.org>.

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