

UCSD's Mandeville Gallery to present video exhibits by Barbara Steinman and Norman, and Bruce Yonemoto

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UCSD'S MANDEVILLE GALLERY PRESENTS VIDEO EXHIBITS BY BARBARA STEINMAN AND NORMAN AND BRUCE YONEMOTO

Two video exhibitions which address cultural disfranchisement, by Barbara Steinman and Norman and Bruce Yonemoto, will be shown at the University of California, San Diego's Mandeville Gallery, from Nov. 9 through Dec. 16.

There will be an opening reception at the gallery from 6-8 p.m., Nov. 8.

Steinman's and the Yonemotos' works, in separate ways, speak of disfranchisement of populations, either by disavowal, estrangement, or denial of collective memory.

Steinman's work, "Borrowed Scenery," incorporates a wood platform which is covered with raked salt, inspired by a Japanese rock garden. Situated in the horizontal plateau are five openings through which sub-surface video monitors silently project the image of flowing blue water. Overhead projections of a variety of maps create superimposed borders onto the raked surface. On the wall behind the platform are three photographic transparencies displayed in light boxes, showing three different images of boats, each corresponding to a title underneath: REFUGEE, TOURIST and IMMIGRANT.

The Yonemotos' video work, "Framed," addresses the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II, after Japan bombed Pearl Harbor, and the subsequent lapse of collective memory surrounding those internments.

More than 120,000 people were placed into 10 "relocation" camps, including the Yonemotos' mother. A second-generation Japanese, she was confined to a camp at Tule Lake for more than three years. Their father also was confined to a camp for a few months, before being drafted into the U.S. military service.

"Framed: A Video Installation," places the viewer in front of a mirror. The lights dim, and the mirror becomes a screen. In the background a video monitor shows reframed film clips from government documentaries of the internment camps where a seemingly summer camp atmosphere prevails. The foreground is occupied with enlarged images from the films, placing the occupants of the camps under closer scrutiny.

Because the internees exhibited model behavior in the camps, on the surface they appeared to be content. The Yonemotos peel away the first impression given by the documentaries, to show the well-contained stresses suffered by the internees.

A catalog for this exhibition is available. The Mandeville Gallery is open to the public from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. The gallery will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and the following Friday. Parking permits are necessary, and may be obtained at the Gilman Drive or Northview Drive information pavilions.

Steinman's travel is paid for by the Quebec Government Delegation, Los Angeles. The Yonemotos' exhibit is produced and circulated by the Long Beach Museum of Art. Their exhibit, in part, is supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

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