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For Immediate Release

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El Camino College Art Gallery to Present “Architecture Digested”

The El Camino College Art Gallery will present “Architecture Digested” through February 13, with an opening reception scheduled for 7-9 p.m. January 30, and an artists’ walk-through at 1 p.m. February 4. The El Camino College Art Gallery is located on campus, 16007 Crenshaw Boulevard, near Torrance.

“Architecture Digested” features architecturally stimulated works by Al Alu, Josh Cho, Michael Davis, Rene Deloffre, Lawrence Garcia, Lawrence Gipe, Laura Hamje, Robert Hite, Joyce Kohl, Sandra Low, Michael Lewis Miller, Margaret Nowling, Elizabeth Ockwell, Fred Rose, Cory Sewelson, Pat Warner, and David Jordan Williams.

Architecture is one of the oldest forms of design practiced by man (and insects, birds, mammals, fish, reptiles and the like.) Everyone needs a place to live – shelter from weather, a place to lay eggs, store honey, or congregate. This ancient habit of making dwellings of one sort or another seems to be an intrinsic aspect of nesting. The nature of the nest reflects the manner in which the builder thinks and lives.

All of the artists in “Architecture Digested” make images of architecture rather than actually creating a structure in which to live. They use architecture as a point of departure for the imagination. Featured artists include:

- **Al Alu** builds miniature replicas of Los Angeles landmarks. Most of the buildings carry a strong sense of nostalgia for an era bygone.
- **Josh Cho** shows photos of zoo enclosures where, enigmatically, scenery of the native habitat of the enclosed animal is painted on the walls.
- **Michael Davis** exhibits an elegant columnar piece that incorporates actual architectural elements with his own structural additions.
- **Rene Deloffre** presents composite photographic images of architecture in which separate overlapping sections of a subject are pieced together and subsequently retouched with ink and scratched with sandpaper.
- **Lawrence Garcia** shows scale models of confabulated historic architecture. One is a Mayan pyramid and the other represents a set used in the film “Mon Oncle” by Jacques Tahti.

- **Lawrence Gipe** presents wonderfully rendered small-scale paintings of architecture that bear reference to specific time and place.
- **Laura Hamje** exhibits impasto abstractions of architectural forms including bridges and freeways.
- **Robert Hite** is both sculptor and photographer. His sculptural models of imaginary buildings are used as the subject of his black and white photos.
- **Joyce Kohl** exhibits elegant, large-scale wall installations in rusted, painted steel. These abstractions contain apparent architectural elements.
- **Sandra Low** shows humorous paintings of architecture combined with oversized food that often bear reference to architectural history.
- The human-scale, participatory stairway constructed by **Michael Lewis Miller** is an observation deck – a spot where one can both see and be seen.
- **Margaret Nowling** shows iconic mixed media constructions that are imbued with the presence of memory, both personal and collective.
- **Elizabeth Ockwell** shows delicate renderings of European public buildings such as a French opera house.
- **Fred Rose** presents his own beautifully crafted and quirky versions of Japanese shoji screens.
- **Cory Sewelson** exhibits fanciful paintings of imaginary architecture that often contain social commentary.
- **Pat Warner** exhibits exquisite cut paper screens that represent architectural elements found in both the Middle East and Far East.
- **David Jordan Williams** presents digital color photographs that incorporate poetic views of architecture and landscape.

The El Camino College Art Gallery is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays and from noon to 8 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays. For more information, call curator Susanna Meiers at 310-660-3010. Admission to the El Camino College Art Gallery and gallery events is free. On-campus parking is \$3.

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