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San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art

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## **San Jose ICA Awards Deeds of Land on the Moon** **As part of *Crater Bay Area: A Lunar Drawing Contest***

July 22, 2008, SAN JOSE, Calif - The San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) and artist duo Ligorano/Reese invite the public to attend the *Crater Bay Area Award Ceremony* that will take place on First Friday, August 1, from 7:00-8:00 pm. During this event, the three drawing contest winners will be announced and receive prizes of certified deeds of land on the moon.

The winning submissions will be selected by a panel of esteemed judges including Peter Lipman of the US Geological Society, Tiffany Montague of Google Lunar XPrize, Donald James of NASA Ames Research Center, Mark Ritchie of Ritchie Commercial Real Estate, Robert Flynn Johnson, Curator Emeritus of the Achenbach Collection and Hoagy de la Plante, Lead Video Artist of BioShock.

More than 100 contestants have entered the *Crater Bay Area* lunar drawing contest by rendering their unique moonscape using either digital or analogue drawing tools. This diverse collection of drawings are on view in the gallery until August 1. Entries may also be viewed virtually at flickr.com and on the island of "Artropolis" in Second Life.

Ligorano/Reese's interactive exhibition explores mankind's enduring fascination with the moon. The project sets up a playful stage of engagement that relies on the creativity of the audience to make the images that hang on the walls. It cleverly recontextualizes the storied tradition of the *plein air* landscape to include the depiction of a man-made reproduction of the lunar surface, while also evaluating the success of traditional hand drawing versus computer-aided design. In addition, the prized deed to land on the moon and the exhibition's simultaneous existence in the virtual world highlight the scarcity of affordable Bay Area real estate in "real life."

For more information about *Crater Bay Area*, including pictures, visit [www.sjica.org](http://www.sjica.org) or contact Susan O'Malley at [susan@sjica.org](mailto:susan@sjica.org).

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The San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) is dedicated to making contemporary art accessible and comprehensible to audiences of all ages and backgrounds through innovative and thought-provoking exhibitions that create a bridge between the artwork and the issues of everyday life. ICA hours: Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Thursday, 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.; Saturday, 12:00 – 5:00 p.m.; closed Sunday and Monday. Admission is free.

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