

Momentary Sense



As long as we have our senses – even just one – we have at least the possibility of accessing what makes us feel human, connected... Primal sensorial delights that say the things we don't have words for, impulses that make us stay present – no need for a past or a future.

– BJ Miller

In conjunction with JCCSF's April 6 conversation with Zen Hospice Project's Dr. BJ Miller on "Death As A Part Of Life," San Francisco artists Jeanne C. Finley and Richard Olsen present *Momentary Sense*, on view April 1 – 11.

The installation, comprised of video projection and interactive triggers for the five senses, creates an arena for the experience of the present moment, a core tenet of Zen Hospice Project's mindfulness-based model of care.

The video projection diptych presents the creative and destructive power of natural forces suggesting the intertwining arcs of life and death. In one projection, a hummingbird nest vibrantly trembles with the birth of two fledglings that ultimately learn to fly and leave the nest. In the other, a mesmerizingly restless sea pounds against a lighthouse while a small sailboat disappears into the horizon.

Opposite the videos, five individual vessels wordlessly invite interaction and sensory engagement. The vivid yet fleeting experiences of touch, taste, sound, sight and smell conjure an awareness of the moment, inviting our presence as witness to our lives.

Jeanne C. Finley is a media artist who works in experimental and documentary forms including film, video, photography, installation, internet, and site specific public works. Her work has been exhibited in The Guggenheim, The Museum of Modern Art, SF MoMA, Whitney Museum of American Art and the Centre George Pompidou. She has been the recipient of numerous grants including a Rockefeller Media Arts Fellowship, Guggenheim Fellowship, Creative Capital Foundation, Cal Arts/Alpert Award, National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships, and the Phelan Award.

Richard Olsen is an artist, writer and teacher. He taught art education at the San Francisco Art Institute, and is an artist in resident for the San Francisco Art Education Project. He has curated numerous shows of art by children and youth including at San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Rena Bransten Gallery and Catharine Clark Gallery. His writings have appeared in many publications including, most recently, Star 82 Review. Solo shows of his art include Southern Exposure and the Intersection of the Arts.