



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
Monday, September 29, 2008**

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## **ARTIST NEAL BOCIEK'S PUBLIC ARTWORKS SAIL INTO SAN DIEGO'S PACIFIC BEACH AND LA JOLLA NEIGHBORHOODS**

**San Diego, CA**— The City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture (Commission) has installed a temporary exhibit of multiple works of original art throughout San Diego's Pacific Beach and La Jolla neighborhoods. As part of the City of San Diego's (City) installation of water pollution management utilities, artist Neal Bociek created a series of artworks which draw from local beach history and culture.

In 2004, local artist Neal Bociek was selected through a competitive process to create a series of public artworks for placement on several utility boxes installed along the coast. These utility boxes house some of the equipment needed to operate a water diversion system, which helps protect San Diego's beaches against polluted urban runoff. In response to the utilitarian purpose of the boxes, Bociek created a series of ten sculptures which he calls "Landsailers". After an extensive research phase which included gathering input and feedback from a wide range of community stakeholders, Bociek created the "Landsailers", whimsical assemblages of features from air, land and sea transportation vehicles. "The sculptures are sure to surprise and delight those who discover them in San Diego's beachside neighborhoods," said Colette Royston Carson, Chair of the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture.

The sculptures are integrated into the beach environment and aesthetically and conceptually connect each utility box to its specific neighborhood location and to all the other utility boxes creating a coastal art trail that can be followed from Pacific Beach to La Jolla. "This coastal art trail reveals the wonderful and unique character of the Pacific Beach community," said Councilmember Kevin Faulconer. The sculptures conceptually suggest an alternative to petroleum based combustion engines, one source of polluted urban runoff. "Neal Bociek's

“Landsailers” are not only fun portrayals of ocean-related activities; they also highlight the importance of water pollution management along the coast,” said Council President Scott Peters.

The temporary exhibition of “Landsailers” will be on view for approximately five years. Visit <http://www.sandiego.gov/arts-culture/installations.shtml> for a map of the “Landsailers”.

Bociek holds a Master of Fine Arts in Sculpture from the University of Notre Dame. He is currently the Sculpture Technician/Assistant Facilities Manager for the Visual Art Department at the University of California, San Diego, and a part-time instructor in metal sculpture at the University of San Diego. He has extensive experience with metals, woods, resins, and numerous other materials as well as experience using and repairing a large range of machinery, tools and equipment. Bociek has been exhibiting his artwork in group and solo shows around the country for nearly a decade.

The mission of the Commission is to vitalize the San Diego community by integrating arts and culture into community life, supporting the region’s cultural assets, and showcasing San Diego as an international cultural destination. Further information about the Commission can be accessed at: [www.sandiego.gov/arts-culture/](http://www.sandiego.gov/arts-culture/)

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