



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
San Diego Public Library

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**Drawings and Paintings by Wayne Hulgin to be Featured in One-Person
Exhibition at Taylor/Pacific Beach Branch Library**
Hallmark of Artist's Work Is Obsessive Mark-Making

SAN DIEGO – Drawings and paintings by Wayne Hulgin, a talented mid-career artist and teacher living and working in San Diego, will be showcased in a major solo exhibition at the Earl & Birdie Taylor/Pacific Beach Library. Titled “Wayne Hulgin: Recent Drawings and Paintings,” the exhibition opens October 27 and continues through January 4, 2009. A reception for the artist will be held on Sunday, November 2, from 1 to 4 p.m. The exhibition and reception are free and open to the general public during library hours.

Part of Hulgin’s creative process includes entering a trance-like state during which he metamorphoses into an obsessively focused mark-maker. In this frame of mind, Hulgin is capable of performing staggering feats of patience and control. Repetition manifested in intricate patterns and miniscule marks become his visual and technical mantras. Particularly impressive are a number of intimately scaled graphite drawings on vellum from the “Circle Drawing Series.” Measuring only a few inches in each dimension, these works take hundreds of hours apiece to complete. At first glance, the images appear to be solid rectangles, but closer inspection reveals that each shape is composed of thousands of tiny, densely packed, painstakingly rendered circles smaller than pinheads. Although all of the circles are the same size, by varying the quality of the line forming each one, Hulgin is able to create subtly shimmering patterns suggesting a moiré effect.

In a witty and irreverent twist on the artistic process, Hulgin executes detailed drawings of his paintings, rather than the other way around. Similarly, Rorschach-like gouaches composed of ephemeral veils of washes may be translated into gritty oils, and images that create the illusion of being wildly gestural and expressionistic are, in actuality, synthesized from miniscule circles. Hulgin’s art is exceptionally elegant, poetic, and surprising.

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Hulgin was born and raised in Akron, Ohio, and has lived in San Diego for the past fourteen years. He received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Arizona State University and a Master of Fine Arts degree in painting and drawing from the same institution. He teaches drawing, painting, and art history at City College. Although Hulgin is a highly respected artist whose works can be found in several important collections, the library exhibition is Hulgin's first solo show since he completed graduate school in 1994.

Additional information on the current exhibition and the Visual Arts Program are available on the Library's website at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/services/visualarts.shtml>

The Pacific Beach/Taylor Library, located at 4275 Cass Street, houses the flagship gallery for the San Diego Public Library system and is open seven days a week. Library hours are: Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Fridays, 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; and Sundays, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The gallery closes ten minutes prior to the library. The library phone number for the general public is (858) 581-9934.

NOTE TO EDITORS: High resolution digital color images of Hulgin's art are available on request from the library curator.

The San Diego Public Library's Visual Arts Program is a nationally recognized series of exhibitions, lectures, a television program, and other art-related activities. The mission of the Program is to demonstrate the Library's role as a cultural institution embracing a broad range of disciplines, while assisting San Diego's mid-career and older professional artists in achieving wider local, regional, and national attention. Visual Arts Program exhibitions are made possible, in part, by contributions from individuals, volunteer efforts, and the Friends of Central Library. For more information about "The 8th Annual Invitational Drawing Show" or the Visual Arts Program, the public can contact the library curator at (619) 238-6627 or visit the Library's website at www.sandiegolibrary.org

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's catalog online at www.sandiegolibrary.org

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