



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
**San Diego Public Library**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Recent Drawings by Clayton Llewellyn to Be Featured in Library Exhibition**  
*Imagery and Unusual Techniques Are Hallmarks of Artist's Works*

**SAN DIEGO** – More than thirty drawings by Clayton Llewellyn, a talented artist and popular community college art teacher whose unusual subjects and experimental techniques are changing the way drawings and drawing media are perceived in the region, will be featured in a solo exhibition at the Earl & Birdie Taylor/Pacific Beach Branch Library. The Taylor Library houses the flagship gallery for the San Diego Public Library system. Titled “Evolutional Whimsy: New Drawings by Clayton Llewellyn,” the exhibition will run from March 29 through June 7, 2009. A reception for the artist will be held on Sunday, March 29, from 1 to 4 p.m. in the library gallery. The Llewellyn exhibition is the most recent of more than 125 museum-quality contemporary art exhibitions that have been organized by the Visual Arts Program of the San Diego Public Library since 1997. Library and gallery hours are Mondays & Wednesdays, 12:30 to 8 p.m.; Tuesdays & 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 to 5 p.m. The exhibition and reception are free and open to the general public. Please note that the gallery will be closed from April 30 to May 7 for a special event. For more information the public can call the library at (858) 581-9934.

Llewellyn, in his early thirties, earned a BA in painting, printmaking, and photography from San Diego State University in 2001 and an MFA in painting from the San Francisco Art Institute in 2006. He currently teaches art-related subjects at Mira Costa College, Cuyamaca College, and Southwestern College, and has taught at UCSD Extension, San Diego State University, and City College.

Llewellyn belongs to a younger generation of artists whose members, defying art world trends, are revitalizing standards of craftsmanship and drawing. Llewellyn’s previous bodies of work explored ideas relating to evolution, science fiction, bioengineering, and a melding of man and machine. In his most recent drawings, Llewellyn’s focus has shifted to the detritus of man’s technological progress; that is, in the artist’s words, “that which falls off,” “that which is left behind,” and “the leaving, the left, and the found.” These “mistakes,” their ultimate incarnation,

and their implications for the future (whether beneficial or perilous), provide ample fodder for Llewellyn. Light bulbs ooze liquid that could be syrup, blood, or semen. Mysterious blobs ferment in closets. And teeth with parachutes, jettisoned from an unspecified mishap, drift lazily downward. The drawings in “Evolutional Whimsy” will range from delicate, intimately scaled vignettes to major triptychs approximately ten feet in length and framed in welded steel.

Llewellyn’s art is elegant, yet unconventional; well-crafted, yet intelligent and provocative. Experimentation governs ideas and technique. A specialty of the artist is toning drawing papers using various unorthodox methods, including subtle rust stains left by moistened steel particles. He enjoys working in relatively poor artificial light, and likes the idea of the ring left by a bottle of beer on a sheet of drawing paper. This approach might be called “disciplined subversion.”

NOTE TO EDITORS: High resolution digital color images of Llewellyn and his 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 Visual Arts Program, the public can contact the library curator at (619) 238-6627 or visit the Library’s website at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://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](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org)

*The City of San Diego Public Library – Your Link to the Past and Gateway to the Future*

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