



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Public Library

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CONTACT: Mark-Elliott Lugo, Library curator
619-238-6627 (Central Library office/voice mail)

Exhibition to Feature Sculptures by Two Artists at Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library

SAN DIEGO – “Two Sculptors: Joseph Bennett & Juliana Freitas,” an exhibition featuring works by two San Diego sculptors, will run from Oct. 8 to Nov. 19 at the Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch of the San Diego Public Library. A reception for the artists will be held on Sunday, Oct. 15, from 1 to 4 p.m.

“Two Sculptors,” the first two-person exhibition to be organized under the auspices of the Visual Arts Program in its nearly ten-year history, is a study in contrasts. Both artists are passionate about their art and produce engaging and sophisticated bodies of work, yet their materials, techniques, aesthetics, philosophies, and education are radically different.

Bennett, though well educated, is primarily self-taught as an artist. Concerned about the environment, he assembles raw, yet elegant, works from found or used objects in the manner of renowned American artist Joseph Cornell (1903-1973). Bennett’s sculptures deal with memory and the subconscious. They are not preplanned, but evolve as he works with the objects, most of which are vintage or date from the 1950s, before he was born. The artist resides in San Diego’s Park West neighborhood.

Freitas, on the other hand, is from Rio de Janeiro and a relative newcomer to San Diego. She received a rigorous, traditional art education in one of the best art schools in Latin America. Freitas’s sculptures, which meld landscape with the human form, are carved from blocks of balsa foam, then cast in bronze. From their exquisite patinas to their painstakingly worked forms, these works are impeccably resolved formally and technically. Freitas is drawn to “the weight and character of solid objects” and compares her sculptures to the giant rocks and mountains around Rio de Janeiro. Her sculptures will be shown with a selection of related drawings. The artist resides in Pacific Beach.

The library, which houses the primary art exhibition space for the San Diego Public Library system, is located at 4275 Cass St. Library hours are: Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:30 to 8 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Fridays, 12:30 to 5:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; and Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m. For more information, the public can call 858-581-9934.

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**Exhibition to Feature Sculptures by Two Artists at Pacific Beach Library
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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, please contact Library Curator Mark-Elliott Lugo at (619) 238-6627.

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