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**Rhythmix Cultural Works Kicks Off #LoveOurIsland Art Walk to  
Bring Bay Area Artists to Alameda**

*Radical Beauty, Part 1* Opens Friday, March 9, 6 pm–9 pm  
Multiple Locations, Park Street, Alameda



Still from *Screening I* by Jennifer Brandon. Image courtesy of the artist.

**Alameda, CA – Tuesday, January 23, 2018** – The K Gallery at Rhythmix Cultural Works kicks off a new two-year initiative to bring visitors to downtown Alameda to experience visual and performing arts as part of its **#LoveOurIsland Art Walk**. Showcasing a diverse range of Bay Area artists, the project will feature temporary art installations in empty storefront windows along the city's Park Street business corridor, which will be accompanied by free live musical performances at Second Friday openings.

Titled *Radical Beauty, Part 1*, the first round of installations features works by **Jennifer Brandon, Angela Hennessy**, and undergraduate students from **Brody Reiman's** Installations class at the **University of California, Berkeley**. Art works will be unveiled at

an opening reception on Friday, March 9 from 6 pm to 9 pm at multiple sites: **1324 and 1326 Park St., and inside the Park Street Plaza at 1419 Park St., Suite D.** Installations will remain on view through the month of March and beyond, depending on space availability.

“As creative people of all kinds grapple with what it means to respond to the moment we are living in, we wanted the first year of this initiative to remind people about beauty in the world — in all the forms that might take,” says **Daniel Nevers**, project curator. “Artists home in on all kinds of subjects that they find beautiful and that they believe merit close attention. The whole project stems from the premise that searching for beauty is, in itself, a radical act.”

To that end, Brandon’s work magnifies and highlights humble things in flux — window film, shock-absorbing foams, safety glass, Cinefoil, reclaimed silver and silver leaf. Intended to conserve, conceal or fix, these materials instead play in front of Brandon’s camera and perform for her in the darkroom.

Hennessy’s current body of work, *The School of the Dead*, is a program for the decolonization of death and grief through the radical inquiry of aesthetic and social practices that mediate the boundary between the living and the dead. Through writing, studio work and performance, her practice examines mythologies of blackness embedded in linguistic metaphors of color and cloth.

Reiman works in sculpture and installation as half of the collaborative team castaneda/reiman. She is an associate professor of sculpture at the University of California, Berkeley. Her Installations class explores the nature and meaning of site-specific work in the context of contemporary art practice.

Free outdoor musical performances will take place near each window on opening night, Friday, March 9. Acts include the [Nick Rossi Trio](#), performing cool jazz and be-bop, and the [Alcatraz Islanders](#), performing classic Hawaiian and hapa haole instrumental music.

A map of artist projects and concert locations is available for download at [www.rhythmix.org/love-our-island-art-walk](http://www.rhythmix.org/love-our-island-art-walk)

Additional #LoveOurIsland Art Walk openings will take place on Second Fridays throughout 2018 in April, June, July, September and December. For more information, visit [www.rhythmix.org](http://www.rhythmix.org)

### **About the Artists**

[Jennifer Brandon](#) lives and works in San Francisco. In 2007, she received her MFA at Mills College, preceded by an MA in 2005 and BA in 2004 in Art at California State University, Northridge, as well as a BA in 1997 in English Literature at San Francisco

State University. Brandon's work has been shown at Bay Area venues including the Mills College Art Museum, Stephen Wirtz Gallery, Headlands Center for the Arts, Swarm Gallery, Pro Arts Gallery and The San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art. Residencies, awards and fellowships include The Rayko Artist in Residence, The Herringer Prize for Excellence in Studio Art and The Catherine Morgan Trefethen Fellowship in Art.

[Angela Hennessy](#) is an Oakland-based interdisciplinary artist and Associate Professor at California College of the Arts, where she teaches courses on visual and cultural narratives of death and contemporary textile theory. She leads workshops and lectures nationally. Recent talks and performances include Death Salon Seattle, University of Cincinnati, CTRL+SHIFT Artists Collective, You're Going to Die, IDEO/*Reimagine End of Life*, Disclose Silence: *We See Violence* and *Dead Black* at Nook Gallery. Last fall her work was featured in a solo exhibition *When and where I enter* at Southern Exposure and in the recent publication *Fray: Textile Art and Politics* by Julia Bryan Wilson.

Brody Reiman is half of the collaborative [castaneda/reiman](#), who have had recent solo exhibitions at DCKT Contemporary (New York), Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (SF), Baer Ridgway Exhibitions (SF), Second Street Gallery (VA) and Stephen Wirtz (SF), among others. Their work has been included in group shows at SFMOMA, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, The Oakland Museum of CA, and various galleries and art spaces, both nationally and internationally. They have been recipients of an Artadia Grant and Fleishhacker Foundation Eureka Fellowship, and artists in residence at Headlands Center for the Arts. Reiman received her BFA from Carnegie Mellon University and MFA from UC Davis.

### **About the #LoveOurIsland Art Walk**

Organized by Rhythmix Cultural Works in partnership with the Downtown Alameda Business Association and the City of Alameda, the #LoveOurIsland Art Walk is a two-year initiative that temporarily places art in empty storefront windows on and around the city's Park Street business corridor. Live musical performances will accompany each window at opening events held during regularly scheduled Second Friday Art Walks. Support for the project is generously provided by the [California Arts Council](#).

### **About Rhythmix Cultural Works**

Open since 2007, Rhythmix Cultural Works is a nonprofit performing arts center in Alameda where diverse cultures come together to perform, inspire, teach and interact. With a flexible 150-seat theater, gallery space and classroom, Rhythmix supports local, regional and international artists in the presentation of their work, and encourages broad participation in the arts. Located at 2513 Blanding Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501. Tel: 510.865.5060. [www.rhythmix.org](http://www.rhythmix.org)

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