
Dress: Clothing as Art

Richmond Art Center
Main Gallery
September 6-October 30, 2005

Featured Artists:

Darshan Amrit
Center for Tactical Magic
jD.
Linda M. Ford
Lori Gordon
Elyse Hochstadt
Elizabeth Jameson

Helena Keefe & Claudia Tennyson
Lisa Kokin & Lia Roozendaal
Robin Lasser & Adrienne Pao
Anna Maltz
Meredith Talusan
Lucrecia Troncoso
Jenny Zhang

Dress is a universal art form. Every day, each of us creates and projects an image of a self we wish to show the world, and each day we exhibit it to everyone we encounter. Dressing marks a transition between private and public life, permitting us entry into society. From our earliest choices, we shape our identity and relationships through clothes. We declare personal identity, economic status, sexual preference and cultural affiliation in our sartorial choices.

Dress: Clothing as Art presented a culturally diverse group of emerging and mid-career artists with ties to the San Francisco Bay Area. Informed by assemblage, sculpture and performance, each uses clothing as a medium to explore the interpenetration of art and life. *Dress* proposed many ways for gallery visitors to interact with and experience the works on view. Visitors were encouraged to touch many of the objects, to make their own artworks in partnership with the artists, and to take certain pieces home. They could try on some works in order to experience altered bodily awareness. Artists working within the exhibition space during the opening reception and Saturday gallery hours invited visitors to collaborate through social interactions and negotiated construction processes. In this way, the exhibition encouraged simultaneous consideration of art as a finished, viewable end product and as a practice, open to all who wish to engage it.

Re: new, use, cycle, configuration by Darshan Amrit, *Knitting Sittings* by Lori Gordon, *Picnic Dress Tent* by Robin Lasser and Adrienne Pao, *The Octopus in You, Who?* by Jenny Zhang and *Making Friends* by Lucrecia Troncoso were performed on alternating Saturdays. A catalogue was produced to accompany the exhibition, and included a limited edition of hand-made covers crafted by exhibiting artists.

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Installation view showing work by Jenny Zhang, Elisabeth Jameson, jD., Anna Maltz, Lucrecia Troncoso



Installation view showing work by Jenny Zhang, jD., Anna Maltz, Lisa Kokin & Lia Roozendaal, Meredith Talusan

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Installation view showing work by Robin Lasser & Adrienne Pao, Center for Tactical Magic, jD., Elisabeth Jameson



Installation view showing work by Lisa Kokin & Lia Roozendaal, Jenny Zhang

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Installation view showing work by Lisa Kokin & Lia Roozendaal



Installation view showing work by Anna Maltz, Lucrecia Troncoso

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Lucrecia Troncoso, *Making Friends: Sewing a Performance*, 2005



Center for Tactical Magic, *The Ultimate Jacket (Display)*, 2004