

# CATHARINE CLARK GALLERY



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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
June 12, 2010

**What.....** Group Exhibition: *Teen Age: You Just Don't Understand*  
Exhibition coincides with ZER01's 01SJ Biennial  
Viewing Room: Stephanie Syjuco: *Part II*

**When .....** August 28 – September 25, 2010

**Reception .....** Saturday, September 4, 3–6pm

**Where.....** Catharine Clark Gallery, 150 Minna Street, San Francisco, CA 94105

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Allison Reilly (17) and Miguel Farias: *Hulu* (from *Gh0st L1fe*), 2010; digital C-print, approximately 45 x 30 inches

**San Francisco, CA:** Catharine Clark Gallery is pleased to present the group exhibition *Teen Age: You Just Don't Understand*, co-curated by Ken Goldberg and Catharine Clark. The exhibition dates are August 28 – September 25, 2010. Goldberg and many of the artists and teens will be present for the opening reception on Saturday, September 4, 3–6pm. Presented in the viewing room is a second installation of works by Stephanie Syjuco. Both exhibitions coincide with the 2010 [01SJ Biennial](#) “Build Your Own World.” The art and technology biennial presented by ZER01 is September 14–19.

“High school's full of phonies; all you do is study so that you can learn enough to be smart enough to be able to buy a goddam Cadillac some day, and you have to keep making believe you give a damn if the football team loses....” – J. D. Salinger, *The Catcher in the Rye*.

The start of the school year for some evokes the memory of J.D. Salinger and his writing, particularly his depiction of Holden Caulfield in *Catcher in the Rye*. This year is no exception given Salinger's death in January (1919-2010). *Teen Age: You Just Don't Understand* celebrates the memory of Salinger through a presentation of more than ten collaborative projects selected from 60 international submissions. Each of the projects is a collaboration involving at least one teen and one adult. The struggle of Salinger's protagonist, Caulfield, in *Catcher in the Rye*—still much identified with by the teen reader—is also the spirit that Ken Goldberg, artist and professor at UC Berkeley, and gallerist Catharine Clark, sought in selecting works for *Teen Age*—collaborations that like Salinger's *Catcher in the Rye* embody the feeling of adolescent alienation and disaffectedness.

Additionally, the challenge presented to applicants for *Teen Age* was to address the topic by reflecting on the role of new media and high technology in the lives of teens from the perspective of teens. As teens develop, they enter a world of new privileges and responsibilities while also managing raging hormones, clueless parents, hypocritical authority figures, and the perception that the status quo is absurd. *Teen Age*, organized as a nod to teenagers who will shape the future of new media, is also a reference to the ‘adolescence’ of new media artwork in terms of its relative nascent development within the wider context of the art world. The title of the exhibit is further an acknowledgement of the dawning of the teen era of the 21<sup>st</sup> century—one where books, like Salinger's, will probably be read on Kindles.

*Teen Age* coincides with the 01SJ Biennial—*Build Your Own World*. *Build Your Own World* features an international group of artists and architects whose works operate at the intersection of technology and culture. The projects in *Teen Age* while reflecting on technology engage a range of media from photography to wooden doors, from cell phones to sofa cushions, from video to drawings—each work responding to the impact of technology sometimes with technology, but often with media that merely reflects on the role of technologies such as texting, tweeting, viral videos, applets, computer games and social media, in the lives of teens.

Israel-based Ben Vertzhaizer (15) and his sister Sivan Eldar will present a video installation of teenage musicians doing their best to play in response to YouTube videos of classical conductors. The Santa Barbara team of Leela Cyd Ross (16) and her father, Richard Ross, capture daily self-portraits of Leela documenting struggles with “boyfriends, body, self-image, identity, fashion, and general teen craziness.” A collaboration between Bay Area Amanda Eicher and 100 teens from Richmond, California and from El Salvador produced paintings on wooden doors inspired by text-club conversations between the participants. Maize Bucholz (11) collaborated with her grandmother Suzie Bucholz on a Facebook project where new pills can be prescribed for overzealous parents. Virginia-based Sam Wheeler (16) and Whitney Lynn construct sculptural installations using couch cushions—a cave-like retreat shielding teens from the intrusions of the adult world.

In the Viewing Room, is the second of a series of introductions to the work of **Stephanie Syjuco**. Syjuco's recent work uses the tactics of bootlegging, re-appropriation, and fictional fabrication to address issues of cultural biography, labor, and economic globalization. Working primarily in sculpture and installation, her objects mistranslate and misappropriate iconic symbols, creating frictions between high ideals and everyday materials. In honor of the ZER01's SJ01 Biennial, Syjuco will present two series: *Everything Must Go (Grey Market)* (2006-09) and *Future Shock Nesting Boxes* (2005). Both projects use downloaded images from online vendor sites, like Ebay and craigslist, to address issues of bootlegging, counterfeiting, and copyright in the digital age. The appropriated images of potentially stolen electronics are blown up to “actual size” and fabricated into paper merchandise, creating a second level of “stealing.”

Born in the Philippines, Stephanie Syjuco received her MFA from Stanford University and BFA from the San Francisco Art Institute. Her work has been shown nationally and internationally, and included in exhibitions at P.S.1, the Whitney Museum of American Art, The New Museum, SFMOMA, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, The Contemporary Museum Honolulu, The San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art, and the California Biennial at the Orange County Museum of Art, among others. In 2007 she led counterfeiting workshops at art spaces in Istanbul, Beijing, and Manila, and in December 2008 her work was the subject of a solo exhibition at the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston. In October 2009 she presented a parasitic art-counterfeiting event, *COPYSTAND: An Autonomous Manufacturing Zone*, for Frieze Projects, London, as well as contributed proxy sculptures for P.S.1/MoMA's joint exhibition "1969." She lives and works in San Francisco.

Syjuco's *Shadow Shop*, an in-gallery emporium of local artists' merchandise that explores alternative models of distribution, will be on exhibition at SFMOMA November 20, 2010–October 16, 2011.

### **Teen Age: You Just Don't Understand Artists and Projects:**

#### (Ar)Rhythmic Dictation

Ben Vertzhaizer (15) and Sivan Eldar (sister)  
Tel-Aviv (ISRAEL) and San Francisco, California (USA)  
Video installation with Israeli and American teenage musicians giving their own sonic interpretation to YouTube videos of classical conductors and singers.

#### Couch Fort

Sam Wheeler (16) and Whitney Lynn  
Virginia (USA)  
Sculptures from found couches, "...like reading, playing games, or listening to music, sitting in your couch fort is a way to zone out and be yourself."

#### Gh0st L1fe

Allison Reilly (18) and Miguel Fariás  
Fairfax and San Anselmo, California (USA)  
Long-exposure photographs of teens in their rooms engaged in games and videos, portraits of "placid bliss...escaping the pain of reality."

#### Illuminated

Virgil Taylor (16) and Kris Lang  
San Francisco California (USA)  
Portraits of teens illuminated by cell- and smart-phone light, used as profile pictures on Facebook, with associated text culled from Facebook profile updates.

#### The Leela Cyd Project

Leela Cyd Ross (18) and Richard Ross  
Santa Barbara, California (USA)  
Self-portraits from age 14–18, documenting struggles with "boyfriends, body, self-image, identity, fashion, and general teen craziness."

#### Metapuentes

100 Teens from Colima and Richmond (15–19), Amanda Eicher, Mayra Padilla  
Richmond, California (USA) and Colima (El Salvador)  
Wooden doors inscribed with conversations being held in text-clubs between teenagers in Colima and high school students in Richmond, California.

#### A Conversational Portrait

Alison Shively (17) and Christopher Santiago  
Chicago, Illinois (USA)  
Mixed media installation which gives viewers an unedited view of a 17-year-old via her transcribed phone conversations.

#### Newflowers

Marisa Olson (16) and Marisa Olson (32) and Tanlines  
New York, New York (USA)  
Digital video based on a poem written in 1994 when Marisa was 16, before she discovered the internet. Including images from the AMIGA computer and music written for the poem by the Tanlines.

#### Pills for Parents

Maize Buchholz (11) and Suzie Buchholz (grandmother)  
San Francisco, California (USA)  
Installation and Facebook page allowing teens to post comments and videos with prescription "pills" for their parents, such as: "Take me shopping and don't judge what I buy."

#### The Teenage Frequency

10 Teens from Marin (16–17), Zachary Gilmour, Gabrielle Gamboa  
Novato and San Francisco, California (USA)  
Drawings and paintings exploring how social networking websites, online games, and global media are expanding and distorting perceptions of the world.

Dedicated to the memory of J.D. Salinger (1919-2010)

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### **About Catharine Clark Gallery**

Established in 1991, Catharine Clark Gallery presents the work of contemporary artists. A wide range of media is represented in the gallery's program with an emphasis on content-driven work that challenges both the traditional use of materials and formal aesthetics. Catharine Clark Gallery was the first San Francisco gallery to create a dedicated media room, presenting new genres and experimental video art with each changing exhibition. Exhibitions are hosted on a six-week schedule and generally feature one or two solo artist exhibitions in addition to media room installations. Additionally the gallery regularly participates in national and international art fairs.

Housed in a former 1920s farming equipment warehouse, redesigned by Los Angeles-based architectural designer Tim Campbell, Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, is situated among numerous arts-related landmark buildings in San Francisco's Yerba Buena Neighborhood; it is adjacent to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA), the Museum of the African Diaspora (MOAD), and near the Contemporary Jewish Museum, and the Museum of Craft and Folk Art, and is housed on the ground floor of the same historical building as SF Camerawork. The gallery is open Tuesday–Saturday, 11am–6pm. For more information, please visit [www.cclarkgallery.com](http://www.cclarkgallery.com) or email [info@cclarkgallery.com](mailto:info@cclarkgallery.com).

In March of 2010, the gallery opened [14th Street Studio](#), a project space in a residential apartment in New York's Chelsea neighborhood. Installations of gallery artists' work are presented as "pop-up" exhibits at the New York location several times a year (314 West 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt. 2F, between 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Avenues).

### **2010 Advanced Exhibition Listings**

**San Francisco**    October 2 – November 13: Masami Teraoka, Chris Doyle  
November 20 – January 1: Andy Diaz Hope

**New York**    Through August: Anthony Disenza  
September 23–25: Adam Chapman