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"The people of the world need to know what they have to lose." – Art Wolfe

Wolfe, a conservation photographer, will exhibit a career retrospective to benefit the Natural Resources Defense Council at G2 Gallery in Venice Saturday, June 26th.

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What's On

Photo exhibit benefiting environmental action group at G2 Gallery June 26



ICEBERGS CALVED BY THE GREY GLACIER in Chile, one of a series of photographs by Art Wolfe that will be showing at the G2 Gallery Saturday, June 26th.

Television personality and photographer Art Wolfe will showcase his most iconic images at The G2 Gallery in Venice Saturday, June 26th.

The opening reception and book signing is from 6:30-9 p.m. Wolfe, a conservation photographer with a fine arts background, is exhibiting a retrospec-

tive of his 30-year career.

The show benefits the Natural Resources Defense Council and the gallery will donate all proceeds from the sale of Wolfe's photography to the organization for their efforts to protect the ecologically diverse Louisiana shoreline in the wake of the Gulf of Mexico oil disaster.

"The people of the world need to know what they have to lose," Wolfe says. "This is an opportunity to contribute to building awareness of the wild world to help create a consensus for preservation."

The exhibit is featured in three rooms of the gallery. The main space has work from his series *Rhythms from the Wild*. By capturing animals in motion, the *Rhythms* series is an artistic interpretation "of the 'essence' of a creature, recording on film the intangibles of instinct and the will to survive," says a gallery spokesperson.

The second room has Wolfe's photography collection and limited edition prints.

The final room showcases images taken on location for the filming of the PBS series "*Art Wolfe's Travels to the Edge*." For the series, the photographer traveled to locations facing environmental challenges, met with conservationists and encountered the people, flora and fauna of each location.

The G2 Gallery is at 1503 Abbot Kinney Blvd., Venice. RSVP is necessary for the opening reception. Two hundred signed books will be given away.

Information, (310) 452-2842 or events@theg2gallery.com.

SMC will "Celebrate America" with food, music and fireworks June 26

Santa Monica College is celebrating Independence Day with its annual outdoor festival and fireworks display "Celebrate America," Saturday, June 26th from 5-8:30 p.m.

The celebration begins at the college's Fountain Quad, which is in the center of the SMC campus, 1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica.

The festivities on the Quad will include KCRW DJ Dan Wilcox, character sketching and face painting artists. Attendees are welcome to bring their own picnic lunches.

The food fair and entertainment is expanded from last year and will showcase a wide variety of some of Los Angeles' mobile cuisine including Let's Be Frank, Calbi Tacos and Lomo Arigato, Ben & Jerry's ice cream, the Santa Monica Pier's Churro Man, chili cheese nachos by the Kiwanis and pizza by the Jaycees.

The SMC cheerleaders and the rhythm and blues group, The J.D. Hall Band, will perform on the "Celebrate America" stage.

The entertainment will begin with SMC logo T-shirts shot out of a cannon and into the stands. A fireworks show will take place at 8 p.m.

The gates to the stadium bleachers adjacent to Corsair Field will open at 7 p.m.

Entry to the event is free but



SANTA MONICA COLLEGE will celebrate Independence Day at its annual outdoor festival featuring fireworks, music and food on Saturday, June 26th.

donations are welcome. Free parking is available in the structures at Pico Boulevard and 17th Street. Alcoholic beverages, glass containers, barbecues and fireworks are prohibited anywhere on campus. Food, drink (except water) and furniture are prohibited on Corsair Field.

"Celebrate America" is sponsored by SMC, the city of Santa Monica, the SMC Associated Students and the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District.

Information, (310) 434-3001 or www.smc.edu/.

Heart inspired art to be featured at Edgemar Summer Solstice Festival



ARTIST PETRA EIKO will bring her "green heart" artwork to the summer solstice festival at Edgemar in Santa Monica Sunday, June 27th.

Internationally known artist and author Petra Eiko is bringing "the-green-heart" back Sunday, June 27th as part of the Edgemar summer solstice festival in Santa Monica beginning at 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Under the umbrella of the-green-heart, a platform to increase peace, Eiko will be displaying a large-scale art piece as part of an interactive public art installation. The theme of this installation is "*What is in your heart? The world is listening.*"

Eiko seeks to entice viewers to put their busy lives on hold to contemplate and express what is going on in their hearts. The community is invited to express their thoughts on loose sheets of paper and post their creations, little drawings and messages on her art piece. Grouping Eiko's painting with visitors handwritten innermost thoughts attempts to create the feeling of community and connectivity.

"It is so important in our times, where we all tend to separate more

and more, to have something that draws us together," says the artist. "*What is in your heart?*" gives us the rare opportunity to tap into our hearts and create something meaningful together.

"With every paper, people show that we are not alone, that we have similar thoughts, joys and therefore are all one."

The "*What is in you Heart?*" project was first introduced this spring when Eiko displayed the art piece in the Good Works Space of Darryl Lynn Kaun at ZeroMinusPlus at Fred Segal in Santa Monica. Within six weeks, nearly eight hundred notes were collected. The notes and the papers collected at the summer solstice festival will be published in a book.

A percentage of the book's proceeds goes to a local charity.

Edgemar is at 2431 Main St., Santa Monica.

Information, www.the-green-heart.com/.

The Realities offers insights on the effects of reality TV at the Santa Monica Playhouse

The Realities, a play based on the experiences of participants who have been on television reality shows and how their lives have been effected after their "15 minutes of fame," will be presented at the Other Space at the Santa Monica Playhouse Saturday, June 26th at 8 p.m.

The play is written by actor-comedian-writer-musician Brandon Sharkey, who poses the following question: after the cameras stop, how easy is it for participants to re-join the real "real world?"

The show promises intriguing insights, eye-opening revelations and stories from the sets of popular

reality shows.

Among the former contestants are Melanie Brown (*Making the Squad: Charger Girls*), Parker Delon (*Big Brother 9*), Jennie Floyd (*Who Wants to be A Millionaire?*), Sheila Kennedy (*Big Brother 9* and *Scott Baio is 45...And Single*) and Michele Noonan (*Big Brother 11*).

Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door.

The Other Space at Santa Monica Playhouse is at 1211 4th St., Santa Monica.

Information, (310) 394-7997, ext. 1 or www.SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com/.