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**FOR RELEASE BEFORE:** April 10, 2013

***The Dinner Parties: Art & Agriculture***  
**A Collaboration Between Local Agriculture and Contemporary Art**

**SANTA CRUZ, CA** - Award winning and leading chefs and artists in the Bay Area come together to expose the link between art, agriculture, community and experience. The Sesnon Gallery will feature an exhibition of artists' installations and documentation reflecting this trend between food and art. Jerome Waag, (Chef of Chez Panisse and artist) and Chris Sollars (award winning SF based artist and teacher) will feature the documentation and relics of *Melt the Pot*, a participatory dinner party. Jim Denevan, founder of *Outstanding in the Field* and international artist, will expose the connections between his 14 year project, *Outstanding in the Field*, with his personal journey as an artist who draws on the earth. E.G. Crichton, a UCSC professor of art, uses a range of strategies to explore social issues by presenting and documenting social vignettes around the dinner table with collaborator Susan Working. Chelsea Wills brings her experience between Mexico and the United States into a monochromatic dinner specifically created for this exhibition. Leif Hedendal will connect the community through one of his Dinner Discussions in Santa Cruz. The Sesnon Gallery will present an overview of the international movement around food and art coming together and forming a greater sense of community.

In a recent interview Michael Pollan said "...sitting down and eating together is an enormous boon to the rise of civilization." and suggests in the article from *Lucky Peach* "We need to bring that sense of communality back into our cooking. I think the best way to get people back into the kitchen is to have more than one person cooking."

*The Dinner Parties: Art & Agriculture* runs from April 10 - May 11, 2013 at the Sesnon Art Gallery located at UC Santa Cruz. Included artists: [E.G. Crichton and Susan Working](#), [Jim Denevan](#), [Leif Hedendal](#), [Jerome Waag & Chris Sollars](#), [Chelsea Wills](#), and others The opening reception will be from 5:00 - 7:00pm at Porter College, Sesnon Art Gallery. Public hours are Tuesday - Saturday from 12:00 - 5:00pm with extended hours on Wednesday until 8:00pm.

The Sesnon Gallery encourages interdisciplinary discourse through the lens of the arts. The gallery is located at Porter College, UCSC and is wheelchair accessible. Admission is free and parking is free on Saturdays. Parking permits are available weekdays at the main campus entrance kiosk for \$6/day and \$4 for special events at the Porter College lot. Group tours are available by appointment at (831) 459-3606. <http://arts.ucsc.edu/sesnon>.

*You're invited to share stories and images for  
The Dinner Parties: art & agriculture*

At the Mary Porter Sesnon Art Gallery @ UCSC

April 10 - May 11, 2013

Opening Reception: April 10, 5:00-7:00pm

Special Alumni Reception: April 27, 4:30-6:30pm

Including artists: [E.G. Crichton and Susan Working](#), [Jim Denevan](#), [Leif Hedendal](#), [Jerome Waag & Chris Sollars](#), [Chelsea Wills](#), and others

Weekly talks and events on Wednesday, please see website for details.