

# UCSC Sesnon Art Gallery

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**April 7–May 8, 2010**

**Opening Reception:**

**Wednesday, April 7  
5:00-7:00PM**

**Conversation with:**

**Alex Kopps and  
Jonathan Steinberg  
6:30PM**

## ***Displacement: We Have Come to Ruin Your Surfing*** SITE-SPECIFIC INSTALLATION BY ALEX KOPPS

### ***Surf film series curated by Jonathan Steinberg***

Films by: Thomas Campbell, Tiffany Morgan, Campbell & Andria Lessler, Gigi Goldeen, Jeff Hutson & John Reynolds, Gary Irving, Alex Kopps, Tyler Manson, Shawn Reynolds, Patrick Trefz

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Santa Cruz, CA** – UCSC Sesnon Gallery presents *Displacement: We have Come to Ruin Your Surfing* by Bay Area artist, filmmaker, and surfer Alex Kopps. Kopps will create a site-specific installation, combining aspects of his visual practice with artifacts, video clips, and elements of his upcoming film, *Displacement*. Kopps describes his mixed media installations as “a garage sale of texture and emotion.”

*Displacement: We have Come to Ruin Your Surfing* runs April 7 through May 8, 2010 with a public reception on Wednesday, April 7 from 5-7pm, featuring a conversation with Alex Kopps and Jonathan Steinberg at 6:30pm. The exhibition is in conjunction with the Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History’s presentation of *Surf City Santa Cruz: A Wave of Inspiration* running March 27–July 25, 2010 showcasing surf-related work of local artists and technical innovators (<http://www.santacruzmah.org/>). Support for the Sesnon Gallery exhibition was made possible by the Charles Griffin Farr Fund.

Excerpts from Kopps film, *Displacement*, combine 1970s super8 surf footage by Steve Krajewski and a DIY (do it yourself) approach to contemporary mixed media by the artist. The film is based around an obscure surf subculture inspired by the designs of George Greenough in the 60s and later refined by Greg Liddle in his displacement hulls, or what its proponents call “stubbies.” Stubbies refers to a special breed of surfboards combining qualities of long and shortboards to create a round-bottomed board that sits lower in the water rather than on top of it.

**\*\*more\*\***

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Alex Kopps attended school at The California College of Arts in San Francisco, where he continues to live and work as an artist. Alex's visual art consists of paintings with gouache on wood and paper, and subject matter that is largely nonobjective but aesthetically has strong ties to the natural world. In his installations, he uses diverse materials such as live grass, scrap wood, and sewn together US currency that he cuts into silhouette form or more recently has sewn into makeshift clothing.

Select shows: Museum Het Domein (Sittard, The Netherlands), Monster Children Gallery (Sydney, Australia), New Image Art (Los Angeles, California), Gallery AD (San Jose, California), Orange County Museum of Art (Newport Beach, California), SuperDeluxe (Minato-ku, Japan), 21 Grand (Oakland, California) and The Luggage Store (San Francisco, California).

Artist information: <http://alexkopps.com/>

## SURF SERIES

The exhibition includes a surf film series curated by Jonathan Steinberg. Steinberg is a small wave hellman and a harmless neighborhood eccentric who lives on the Westside of Santa Cruz. He notes, "Surfing is full of unique characters and wide variety of situationally appropriate wave riding craft. I selected short films full of interesting people and all sorts of surfing. Enjoy!"

### Films by:

Thomas Campbell  
Tiffany Morgan Campbell and Andria Lessler  
Gigi Goldeen  
Jeff Hutson and John Reynolds  
Gary Irving  
Alex Kopps  
Tyler Manson  
Shawn Reynolds  
Patrick Trefz

## GALLERY INFORMATION

The Sesnon Gallery encourages interdisciplinary discourse through the lens of the arts. Gallery hours are Tuesday–Saturday noon to 5:00PM and Wednesday until 8:00PM. The gallery is located at Porter College, University of California Santa Cruz and is wheelchair accessible. Admission is free and parking is free on Saturdays. For further information please call 831/459-3606 or see our Web site <http://arts.ucsc.edu/sesnon/>.

**High resolution images are available upon request.**

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