

**For Immediate Release
PRESS RELEASE**

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***Reimagining
American Realism:
works by
Charles Griffin Farr
through Oct. 1, 2010***

First Friday Reception

October 1, 3:30–5pm

& Arts Division Reception:

September 22, 3:30–5pm

(following retreat)



The Sesnon Gallery is pleased to present *Reimagining American Realism: works by Charles Griffin Farr* through October 1, 2010 including receptions on Wednesday, September 22 and during First Friday on October 1. This is the most comprehensive exhibition of drawings by the artist Charles Griffin Farr that has ever been assembled. Many of the works have never been seen outside the artist's studio. In the 1960s-80s, Charles Griffin Farr was one the key leaders in the Figurative Art Movement in San Francisco. He was a brilliant draftsman, who opened his studio for figure drawing sessions and devoted his life to his art.

The exhibition, which includes drawings, works on paper and oil paintings from Farr's mid career, spanning 1939-1980s, was curated by UCSC students under the direction of Shelby Graham, curator for the Sesnon Gallery. One room is devoted to the war years and the project gallery is lined with life-size figure drawings. A free Figure Drawing session will be held on Friday, October 1 from 2-4pm.

Charles Griffin Farr passed away in 1996 and his archive was divided between UCSC and the Hackett Freedman Gallery in San Francisco. In 2009 when Hackett Freedman Gallery closed the entire collection came to UCSC.

The show is important because Farr worked through America's age of rapid development and war, which is reflected in his paintings along with a trace of disillusionment. He wavers from the precise line of reality to the bright and bold color of the imagination, always finding himself in the middle. Students can relate to this because they are constantly in battle between the tangible real and the imaginary hyper or artificial real of digital technology, and it is sometimes between these two worlds that they can find themselves.

The Sesnon Gallery encourages interdisciplinary discourse through the lens of the arts. Gallery hours are Tuesday–Friday noon to 5:00pm or by appointment. The gallery is located at Porter College, University of California, Santa Cruz and is wheelchair accessible. Admission is free and parking is available in metered spots near the gallery. For further information please call 831/459-3606 or visit: <http://arts.ucsc.edu/sesnon/>.

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