

Santa Fe Art Institute

For immediate release
February 12, 2007

Contact:
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>COMFORT ZONE<, 2007 VISITING ARTIST AND LECTURE SERIES BEGINS

Under the thematic rubric "Comfort Zone" SFAI brings to Santa Fe an outstanding group of artists and writers whose practice focuses on the role of the arts in activism: social, cultural, and environmental.

Harrell Fletcher

Lecture: March 26, 6 pm, Tipton Hall
Lecture ticket prices: \$5 general public, \$2.50 students and seniors

Workshop: March 27-30, SFAI
Workshop cost: \$400, Scholarships are available



Harrell Fletcher, My Neighbors as Lawn Sculptures, 2001

Harrell Fletcher

Harrell Fletcher's work stems from a fundamental need to better connect people and community with art. His brilliance lies not only in fostering the connection between art and audience, but in bringing the audience into the art-making process, blurring the line between art-maker and art-viewer. As a graduate student, Fletcher's frustration with the overall inaccessibility of art moved him to find new ways of creating contemporary artwork to which non-art savvy people could relate. For the past ten years he has worked collaboratively and individually on interdisciplinary, site-specific projects exploring the dynamics of social spaces, communities, and the mingling of the two. Fletcher's approach is to first understand a site's physical and social characteristics, and then to create work that illuminates compelling aspects of the site. Because he works with diverse, non-art related populations and individuals, inherently his audience expands beyond the typical art world.

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The Santa Fe Art Institute, an independent educational non-profit organization founded in 1985, is committed to programs that nurture artists and enhance and promote the arts as an essential element of American culture and society. Visit our website at www.sfai.org.

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Harrell Fletcher received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the San Francisco Art Institute, and a Master of Fine Arts degree from the California College of Arts and Crafts. He has exhibited at SF MoMA, the de Young Museum, The Berkeley Art Museum, Yerba Buena Center For The Arts in San Francisco, The Drawing Center, Socrates Sculpture Park, and Smackmellon in NYC, DiverseWorks and Aurora Picture show in Houston, PICA in Portland, OR, CoCA in Seattle, WA, and Signal in Malmo, Sweden. Fletcher is represented in San Francisco by Jack Hanley Gallery, and in NYC by Christine Burgin Gallery. He was a participant in the 2004 Whitney Biennial. In 2002 Fletcher started *Learning To Love You More*, a participatory web site with Miranda July.

Harrell Fletcher engages audience and community in the process of art making - gathered around social important social and cultural issues. His workshops will engage these practices and will focus on ways for each participant to expand the reach and level of connection between their work and community.

General Workshop Information

There are two full **scholarships** given per workshop. One scholarship is for a full time educator. The second is a need-based scholarship for an artist or student. Partial scholarships are also granted on an individual basis as needed.

A 50% **deposit** is necessary to reserve a space in the workshop. This deposit is fully refundable if canceled 30 days prior to the beginning of the class. The remaining cost of the workshop is due on the first day of class. Deposits may be made by phone with a Visa or MasterCard by calling 505 424-5050 or mailed with a check made out to the Santa Fe Art Institute, PO Box 24044, Santa Fe, NM 87502.

Workshop participants have the opportunity to stay at SFAI's extraordinary facilities or choose package **accommodations** at La Posada de Santa Fe Resort and Spa. Discounts are also given to workshop participants at the nearby El Rey Inn.

For more information on the **>COMFORT ZONE<** series please visit SFAI's website at www.sfai.org or call 505 424-5050.