

Santa Fe Art Institute

For immediate release
February 12, 2007

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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.

Hans Haacke

Lecture: March 19, 6 pm, Tipton Hall
Lecture ticket prices: \$5 general public, \$2.50 students and seniors

Workshop: March 20-23, SFAI
Workshop cost: \$400, Scholarships are available



Hans Haacke, Untitled #1, 2005

Hans Haacke

Born in 1936 in Germany, Hans Haacke was trained as a painter but is world renown as a conceptual artist. In 1961-2 he received a Fulbright Scholarship and studied at Temple University in Philadelphia, PA.

Haacke's 1990 controversial painting *Cowboy with Cigarette* turned Picasso's *Man with a Hat* (1912-13) into a cigarette advertisement. The work was a reaction to the Phillip Morris company's sponsorship of a 1989-90 exhibition about Cubism at the Museum of Modern Art. Haacke published a book about the ideas and processes behind his and other conceptual art called *Framing and Being Framed*. Haacke has since had solo exhibitions at the New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York; the Stedelijk van

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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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AbbeMuseum, Eindhoven; and the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris. In 1993 Haacke shared, with Nam June Paik, the Golden Lion for the German Pavilion at the Venice Biennale. Haacke's installation *Germania* made explicit reference to the Biennale's roots in the politics of fascist Italy. Two years later Haacke teamed with Pierre Bourdieu and published *Free Exchange*, a volume of their conversations. Haacke and Bourdieu expressed a shared interest in the relationship between art and politics.

In his most recent exhibition *State of the Union* at the Paula Cooper Gallery in New York (11/5 - 12/23, 2005) Haacke centered his work around George W. Bush and the effect he and his administration's actions have had on the country. *Art in America* magazine says of Haacke's *State of the Union*, "An aspect of the show's power came from Haacke's polemical adaptations of a basic symbol of patriotism despite the administration's assertion that any critics of its policies are unpatriotic. Haacke insists on redirecting the question from 'are you for us or against us?' to 'which side of us are you on?'"

Hans Haacke is never without an agenda; for almost forty years, he has been investigating, exposing, and protesting, refusing to be silent in the face of corporate crime, governmental corruption, and art-world mischief. He's a perennial whistle-blower with a long and notable history of social activism and doesn't blanch at the problematic designation of "political artist." Frequently, he names names: Jesse Helms, Philip Morris, Daimler-Benz, Deutsche Bank, and Ronald Reagan have all figured in an ever-growing pantheon of culprits.

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.

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