

# HURTS SO GOOD

ROWAN UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY, WESTBY HALL, ROWAN UNIVERSITY • 201 MULLICA HILL ROAD • GLASSBORO, NEW JERSEY 08028

NOV. 19TH 2009 – JAN. 8TH, 2010

**Opening Reception**

5pm – 7pm, Thurs. Nov. 19th

**Panel Discussion**

5:30pm, Thurs. Nov. 19th

Monday - Friday, 10am – 5pm

Saturday, 12pm – 5pm

**Phone:** 856.256.4521

**Fax:** 856.256.4814

**SKIP ARNOLD**  
**RONNIE CRAMER**  
**CHRIS CROCKER**  
**KARA CROMBIE**

**GEORGE KUCHAR**  
**J. MAKARY**  
**CHRIS MINER**  
**LAUREL NAKADATE**

**MIKA ROTTENBERG**  
**SARAH STUVE**  
**JENNY VOSACEK**

## CURATED BY JENNY DRUMGOOLE AND JENNIE THWING

“Hurts So Good” is a video exhibition that explores the various ways artists use video to confront culture and traditions in America. Works celebrate, critique and satirize representations of American culture and traditions related to sex, religion, politics, economics, technology, popular culture, media, and family.



### KARA CROMBIE

Kara Crombie received a BA in art history and photography from the University of Pittsburgh (1996) and an MFA in photography from the Rochester Institute of Technology (2001). Crombie teaches at Moore College of Art in Philadelphia, PA. Recent exhibitions include: Kara Crombie, Vox Populi(2008); Open Call for Video, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, PA (2002); Circles and Squares, Bleeker Street Theater, New York, NY, (2001); Video Sketches, Garfield Artworks, Pittsburgh, PA (2001); and three exhibitions held at the SPAS Gallery, Rochester, NY (1999-2000).

#### “Portraits”, 2009

Krombies “moving portraits” focus on the physical subtleties of human relationships.

### MIKA ROTTENBERG

Mika Rottenberg is a New York-based artist. Mika Rottenberg’s work is part of the collections of the Museum of Modern Art (New York, USA), the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation (New York, USA) and the Astrup Fearnley Museum of Modern Art (Oslo, Norway). She was the winner of The Cartier Award at the 2006 Frieze Art Fair in London, and The Rema Hort Mann Foundation Award in 2004.

#### “Time and a Half”, 2003

A young woman daydreams while constantly tapping her fingernails and staring at a poster of a tropical island view, replete with palm trees, blue water and a gentle breeze. This “island”, however, is in fact a Chinese take-out restaurant where the woman works.



### SKIP ARNOLD

Skip Arnold was born in Binghamton, New York and currently lives and works in Los Angeles, California. He received his BFA from the State University College of Buffalo, New York in 1980 and his MFA from UCLA in 1984. His investigation of the body in space has yielded a variety of different performance pieces throughout his career. He has exhibited throughout the world including many shows in Europe and Asia, and in the United States. In 1993 he received a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, and in 1995 he was awarded a grant from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation.

#### “Marks”, 1984

Rooted in the tradition of extreme body based work, “Marks”, shows Arnold throwing himself at a wall for the duration of the video until he finally collapses.

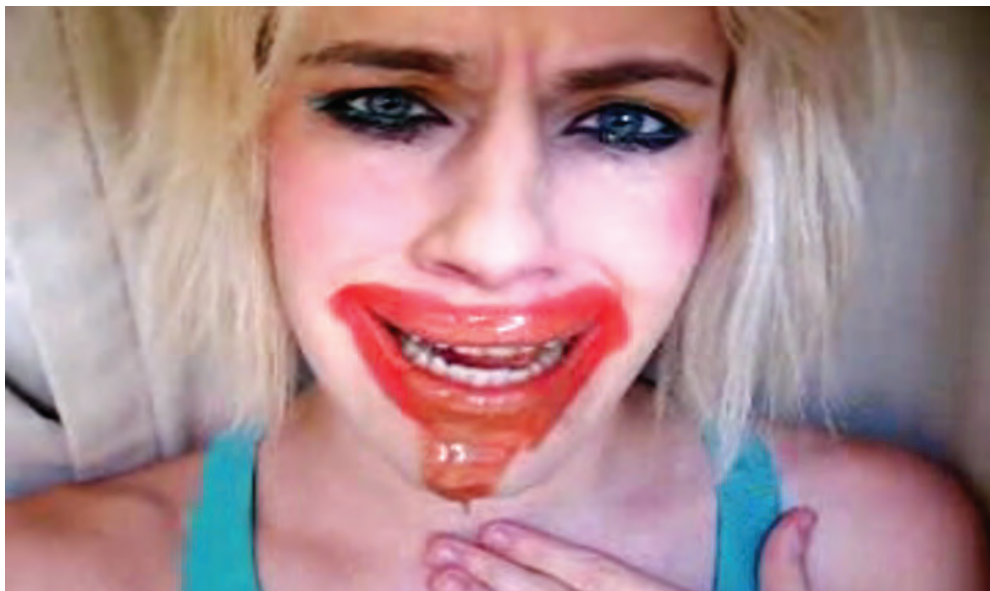
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## CHRIS MINER

Christopher Miner was born in 1973 and grew up in Jackson, Mississippi. His exhibitions have included two solo shows at Mitchell-Innes and Nash Gallery in New York and the Bellwether Gallery. Other exhibitions include The New Museum of Contemporary Art's Videodrome II and the Queens International at the Queens Museum of Art in 2004. His work was featured in PS1's Greater New York 2005 and has been screened at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, as well as Tate Britain and other international venues. Miner is currently represented by Mitchell-Innes and Nash in New York.

### **"Auction", 2000**

"Auction" is a performance piece where Miner takes the generic phrases of the alter calls he heard growing up in the Baptist church and uses them to create an auction from behind the pulpit of a church.



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## CHRIS CROCKER

Chris Crocker was born in 1987 in Tennessee. Chris is best known for his 2007 "Leave Britney Alone" Youtube performance video, which was viewed over two million times within the first 24 hours of posting. The video received worldwide attention and earned Crocker interviews on CNN, Fox News, MSNBC, The Today Show. Chris currently lives in Los Angeles.

### **"Makeup is my Friend!", "B\*\*\*\* Bell", "The Secret!", "Watch Chris Crocker Blink", "Don't Call Me Pretty!", 2007-2009**

Pop culture, politics, sexuality, and celebrity are among the subjects of Crocker's short form, self-directed monologues which he posts on youtube and which have made him an Internet celebrity.

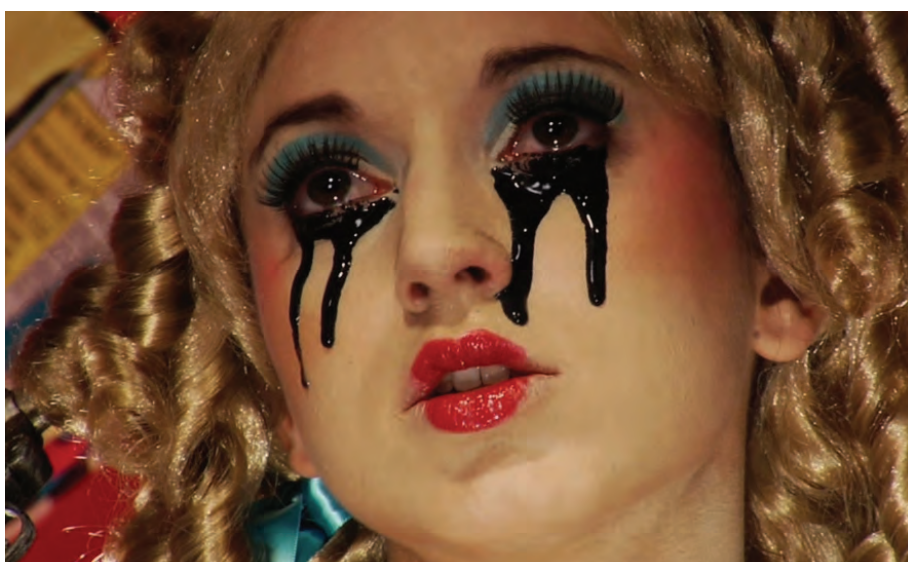
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## GEORGE KUCHAR

George Kuchar was born in New York City in 1942 and is one of a twin (Mike Kuchar is the other half). With his homemade Super-8 and 16mm potboilers and melodramas of the 1950s, '60s, and '70s, he became legendary as one of the most distinctive and outrageous American underground filmmakers. After his 1980s transition to the video medium, he remained a master of genre manipulation and subversion, creating dozens of brilliantly edited, hilarious, observant, often diaristic tapes with an 8mm camcorder, dime-store props, not-so-special effects, and using friends as actors and the "pageant that is life" as his studio. In 1992, Kuchar received the prestigious Maya Deren Award for Independent Film and Video Artists from the American Film Institute. Kuchar's film and video works have been screened internationally. He teaches at the San Francisco Art Institute, where he makes many of his videos in collaboration with his students.

### **"Vault of Vapors", 2009**

*"One of my weather diary series out in Oklahoma. The tone is wistful, the surroundings wispy (with some puffs of pungency). The TV is on and the porcelain is smeared with some residue atrocity from a previous passion. But all is well as emptiness persists beyond the four walls of this prairie mausoleum."* – George Kuchar



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## SARAH STUVE

Sarah Stuve was born in Jupiter, Florida. She is 25 years old and a Capricorn. She received a BFA from the School of Visual Arts with a specialization in film editing/cinematography. She was awarded the New York Women in Film & Television Grant in 2008. She resides and works out of Brooklyn, New York.

### **"My Dead Brain", 2008**

"My Dead Brain" is an escape from reality into a realm of whimsy. Set in a fantastical wonderland, the heroine emerges again and again, and from each new fantasy with a new identity.



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## RONNIE CRAMER

Artist/Musician/Filmmaker Ronnie Cramer has been active in the arts community for over thirty years. His paintings have been exhibited in galleries and other venues across the country, his music has achieved airplay on over 100 radio stations nationwide and his critically-acclaimed films have been screened at festivals around the world. He has also been featured as a guest lecturer on art and media at numerous museums and universities.

[www.cramer.org](http://www.cramer.org)

### “Highway Amazon”, Ronnie Cramer, 2001

“Highway Amazon” tells the story of Christine Fetzer, a female bodybuilder who travels the country wrestling men on beds in hotel rooms. Between ‘sessions,’ she discusses her unique method of earning a living and talks about her former career as an exotic dancer.

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## J. MAKARY

J. Makary makes films that blend contemporary conceptual dance forms and popular dance of the 80s and 90s. She is pursuing a film degree at Temple University. Solo exhibitions of her work include Virtual Boring., International House, Philadelphia, PA, and Wanna Kiss Myself, NEXUS/foundation for today’s art, Philadelphia, PA. Group shows and screenings include 1:5:25 at Slought Foundation, Philadelphia, PA; Z-in-Motion, Zodiak Centre for New Dance, Helsinki, Finland; and Screendance, American Dance Festival, Duke University, Durham, NC.

### “Wanna Kiss Myself,” 2008

A dozen performers and a shifting sound score inhabit the enclosed world of a party in a film as hybridized as memories.



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## JENNY VOSACEK

Jenny Vosacek is a video artist and photographer living in Belmont, CA. She received her MFA from Yale University in 2005 and is currently pursuing an MFT, ATR (Marriage and Family Therapy, Art Therapy degree) at NDNU in Belmont. She has taught photography at several colleges in the bay area and has been a guest lecturer at SFSU, Mills College, and UC Berkeley. Her work has been shown in France, Luxembourg, Canada, and the United States. Jenny’s work has been published in Border Crossing Magazine and is in the permanent collections of SALT Institute for Documentary Studies as well as the Detroit Museum of New Art.

### “Caregiver Challenge”, 2005

“Caregiver Challenge” follows Vosacek’s eccentric and animated mother as she answers the questions to a simulated online computer test aimed at assessing parenting styles.

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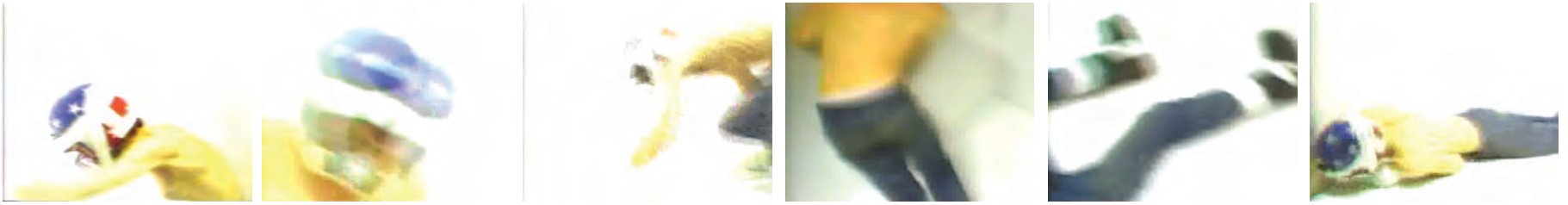
## LAUREL NAKADATE

Laurel Nakadate is a photographer, video artist and filmmaker. She was born in Austin, Texas and raised in Ames, Iowa. She received an M.F.A. in photography from Yale University and currently lives in New York City. Her work has been exhibited at P.S.1/MoMA, The Yerba Buena, The Getty Museum, and The Reina Sofia. In 2009, her first feature film, “Stay the Same Never Change” premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and went on to be featured in New Directors/ New Films at The Museum of Modern Art and Lincoln Center. She is currently finishing her second feature film titled, “The Wolf Knife”. She is represented by Leslie Tonkonow Artworks + Projects in New York City.

### “Oops”, 2001

Nakadate has long been turning the tables on middle-aged men who try to pick her up on the street. “Oops” documents various men she invited to her home to dance with to a Britney Spears’ song as she both participates in and films the “party”.





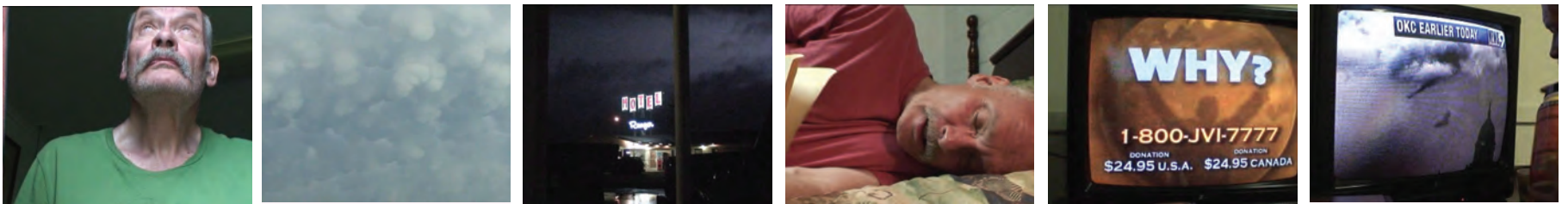
Skip Arnold, *Marks*, 1984



Ronnie Cramer, *Highway Amazon*, 2001



Chris Miner, *Auctioneer*, 2000



George Kucher, *Vault of Vapors*, 2009



Jay Makary, *Wanna Kiss Myself*, 2008



Mika Rottenberg, *Time and a Half*, 2003



Sarah Stuve, *My Dead Brain*, 2008



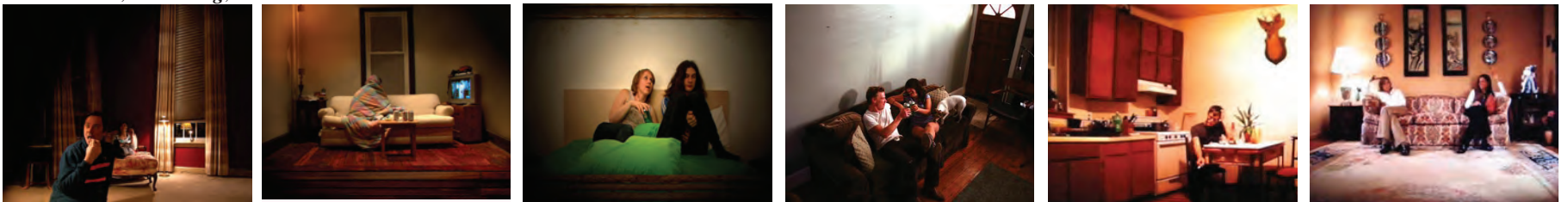
Laurel Nakadate, *Oops*, 2001



Jenny Vosacek, *Caregiver Challenge*, 2005



Chris Crocker, *Video Blog*, 2007 – 09



Kara Crombie, *Portraits*, 2009