

City of Dallas  
**News Release**  
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## For Immediate Release

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

**Media and Public Contact:**

Enrique Fernández Cervantes,  
BHCC - Visual Arts Coordinator / Curator  
(214) 670-8723 [enrique.fernandez@dallascityhall.com](mailto:enrique.fernandez@dallascityhall.com)

*Artists prompt our reconsideration of the value of the  
environment*

The Bath House Cultural Center and the University of Texas at Dallas  
present

**Art of the Everyday**  
Curated by Marilyn Waligore

March 14-April 18, 2009

**Opening Reception with the Artists: Sunday, March 15, 2009 (7-9 PM)**

Free and open to the public

DALLAS –The Bath House Cultural Center and the University of Texas at Dallas present *Art of the Everyday*, a two-part exhibition featuring artists who transform everyday objects through the use of photographic processes and sculptural media. The exhibition, curated by *Marilyn Waligore*, will run from March 14 to April 18, 2009. An opening reception with the artists will be held on Sunday, March 15, 2009 from 7 to 9 PM. Both the exhibition and the reception are free and open to the public.

**About the exhibition:**

The artists featured in this exhibition embrace the mundane. They transform everyday objects through photographic reframing or sculptural construction, prompting our reconsideration of materials that we deem to be without value or environments that we overlook. Their efforts heighten our perception, while reminding us of the potential effects

of modest daily habits, rituals, and gestures.

The artists participating in this exhibition are: **Beth Callahan, Susan Dunkerley, John Frost, Mary Beth Heffernan, Robert McAn, Mark Monroe, Sherry Owens, and Vaughn Wascovich.**

Several of these artists embrace commonplace materials, which are then transformed or recycled, to generate new forms. Robert McAn's relief works, constructed of accumulations of shredded documents, presents identity as related to an ephemeral paper trail, marking our activities as consumers and citizens, our lives "as society and government define a person's identity through data." Mary Beth Heffernan references the activity of cooking, and the sharing of meals, through presentations of worn knives and cutting board, and discarded factory table knife blades. Through her use of electron microscopy she connects the spheres of domesticity and science, pointing to the ways in which the latter "often mediate[s] our most intimate life experiences."

John Frost assembles cylindrical wood dowels, imperfect factory rejects, into a cyclonic spiral, to suggest tensions between natural forces and human efforts to tame nature. A totem-like sculpture by Mark Monroe includes garbage pails; formerly functional objects take on ritualistic form within the trunk, branches, and canopy of a tree, a curious monument to excess. Sherry Owens' carvings of discarded crepe myrtle trees-- commonplace greenery in local gardens—include markings of a repetitive human effort to transform nature's detritus. Susan Dunkerley's picture windows are the result of a collaboration with nature, extending the practice of arranging the space surrounding a kitchen sink. Vine tendrils anchor objects within the frame, like a spider's web, referencing the passage of time as well as daily events, through the inclusion of a chicken wishbone or a teacup, markers of human presence. Recycling materials underscores our relationship to our environment, to the earth, while acknowledging our relationship to each other, providing a social dimension.

Beth Callahan travels from Dallas, Texas to Cambodia to Tunisia to photograph landfills and recycling centers, noting the collective impact of the production of waste on our planet, as well as conservation efforts. In Vaughn Wascovich's *The Tar Creek Project*, the evidence of everyday small town life-- picnic tables, little league, main street--are framed against a landscape populated by chats, or mine tailings, from mining operations. Landscape becomes social space in these photographs of a Superfund Site, underscoring the relationship of individuals to their community, the government, and to the land itself.

**About the exhibition at the University of Texas at Dallas:**

The second part of *Art of the Everyday* will be presented at the Visual Art Gallery at the University of Texas at Dallas starting on March 27 and closing on May 2, 2009. The artists featured in the Bath House Cultural Center's exhibition will also be included in the show at UTD. For more information about UTD's show, please visit <http://ah.utdallas.edu/season0809/artofeveryday.htm>

**About the Curator:**

Marilyn Waligore is currently an Associate Professor of Photography in the School of Arts and Humanities at the University of Texas at Dallas. An active fine art photographer herself, Marilyn Waligore has exhibited her art extensively locally and nationally. Please visit Marilyn's website at <http://www.marilynwaligore.com> to learn more about Marilyn's experience as professor, curator, and photographer.

**SPE National Conference and DADA's Spring Gallery Walk:**

This exhibition will be on view at the Bath House Cultural Center coinciding with the *46th National Conference of the Society of Photographic Education* (SPE) to be held this year in

Dallas, and also during the *Spring Gallery Walk of the Dallas Art Dealers Association* (DADA). For more information about the SPE Conference, please visit [www.spenational.org](http://www.spenational.org). To read more about DADA's gallery walk, please visit [www.dallasartdealers.org](http://www.dallasartdealers.org).

Please visit <http://bathhousecultural.com/everyday.html> for more information and to preview selected art pieces from the exhibition.

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### **Press Photographs**

To download print-resolution (300 dpi) JPEG press photographs of this exhibition, please visit: the online press room at <http://www.bathhousecultural.com/press.htm>. Publication of photographs must contain the credit line provided on the webpage. Photographs may only be used for promotional, educational, or non-commercial purposes.



"As a Result" - Mixed media sculpture by John Frost

[Click here to download press images](#)

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The Bath House Cultural Center is a division of the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs. The center is dedicated to fostering the growth, development and quality of multi-cultural arts within the City of Dallas. The center emphasizes innovating visual and performing arts as well as other multi-discipline events throughout the year. Funding for the Bath House Cultural Center is provided by the City of Dallas, with additional support from the Texas Commission on the Arts.

#### **LOCATION AND HOURS:**

The Bath House Cultural Center is located on the eastern shore of White Rock Lake at the end of Northcliff Dr. off of Buckner Blvd. at 521 E. Lawther, Dallas, TX 75218. Hours of operation are Tuesday-Saturday, 12:00 noon to 6:00 PM. The center is open until 10:00

PM on nights with theatre performances. For general information about cultural programs at the Bath House Cultural Center, please call (214) 670-8749 or visit the center's website at [www.bathhousecultural.com](http://www.bathhousecultural.com)

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