

FOR: MA(i)SONRY NAPA VALLEY

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MA(i)SONRY

N A P A V A L L E Y

Napa Valley's Largest Public Art Donation—"Chaos Pamplona" by Jedd Novatt—to be Unveiled at Festival del Sole 2011

Ma(i)sonry Curator and Proprietor, Michael Polenske, Introduces Donation of Monumental Work to the Town of Yountville



NAPA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA, July 8th, 2011 – “Chaos Pamplona,” a 21-foot tall bronze sculpture by an internationally recognized artist and gifted to the Town of Yountville, will be unveiled on Saturday, July 16th as part of the Festival del Sole celebration of arts and culture. The largest single public art donation to Napa Valley, “Chaos Pamplona,” donated by an anonymous patron of the arts, will be installed in downtown Yountville between Bardessono Hotel and the Community Center on Yount Street. “Chaos Pamplona” is one of only three sculptures that will be installed permanently.

The idea to place Yountville on the list of possible recipients for Chaos Pamplona came about through a conversation with the anonymous patron and Michael Polenske over a year ago. Polenske, who acted as an advisor, has a notable work by Novatt placed in front of Ma(i)sonry in Yountville, and was first introduced to the artist’s work by the artist’s dealer in London, Tim Jefferies.

Polenske suggested that—given Yountville's commitment to the arts and the importance of Napa Valley—it would be appropriate to have a world-class work of art permanently exhibited in the heart of Napa Valley. The patron and her husband had visited Napa Valley and Yountville, and had enjoyed the area immensely.

The gift of the sculpture was being pursued by three major institutions—one on the East Coast of the United States, one in Los Angeles, and also Bilbao, Spain. Polenske succeeded in convincing the patron that Yountville was an ideal final destination for the work, through his efforts to coordinate between the patron and the town of Yountville Arts Committee (which did an extraordinary job fundraising in order to ship the 3-ton sculpture from the Basque region of Spain to Oakland, California).

In total, the town of Yountville and the Yountville Arts Committee raised over \$60,000 in cash contributions and another \$20,000 in in-kind support to cover the shipping of the sculpture from Europe, on-site installation costs, artist travel and accommodations, as well as the installation event reception. Yountville Arts Committee members include Judith Caldwell, Chair; and Steve Rogers, Town Manager.

Mr. Novatt's sculpture has been exhibited internationally for years, and his work is in major public and private collections worldwide. An edition of Novatt's sculpture, "Chaos Pamplona," was also exhibited in the world-class annual exhibition by Sotheby's at Chatsworth in England, home of the Duke of Devonshire. The work was placed by Sotheby's into a prominent collection in the UK. Jedd Novatt's work has been included in this highly influential exhibition four years consecutively, along with other internationally recognized sculptors.

The unveiling of "Chaos Pamplona" will take place during Festival del Sole, on Saturday July 16th. Jedd Novatt, Tim Jeffries (owner of Hamilton's Gallery, London), and Michael Polenske will be in attendance. Festival del Sole is currently in its 6th year, celebrating global culture and the arts in all forms—from music and dance, to cuisine and wine, to sculpture and other visual arts. Polenske, Proprietor of Blackbird Vineyards, was one of the founders of the festival. Festival del Sole and the Yountville Art Walk are among the many reasons that Yountville is rapidly becoming a mecca for arts and culture in Northern California.

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About Jedd Novatt

Jedd Novatt was born in New York City in 1958. After graduating from Sarah Lawrence College in 1980, Novatt spent the year studying and working in France at the Lacoste School of the Arts, now part of Savannah College of Art and Design. In 1981, Novatt returned to New York City where he had his first studio on Warren Street in Tribeca. He had his first solo show in New York City in 1993. In 2002, Novatt moved to Paris, where he currently resides with his family. He divides his time among studios in Paris, Normandy, and the Basque region in Spain. Novatt's work has been exhibited extensively in galleries and museums in the United States and Europe. His work is represented in numerous public and private collections worldwide. Jedd Novatt is represented exclusively by Hamilton's Gallery in London and Galerie Hopkins Custot in Paris.

About Festival del Sole

Festival del Sole takes place every summer in California's beautiful Napa Valley. The Festival features concerts by some of the world's most celebrated musical artists, five-star cuisine, art exhibits, and wines from Napa's top vintners, blended in a unique celebration of the art of life. <http://fdsnapa.org/>.

About Yountville Arts/Yountville Arts Committee

Yountville Arts is the shortened name for the Yountville Arts Committee which is a citizen volunteer committee of the Town of Yountville which is supported by the Parks & Recreation Department and Town Manager's Office. The mission of Yountville Arts is to inspire, gather, and create. They develop and support a number of programs and efforts, most notably of which are the Yountville Public Art Walk and the Gallery at the Community Center. More information about the Yountville Arts initiatives and programs are listed on the Town of Yountville's website at www.townofyountville.com.

About Ma(i)sonry Napa Valley

Restored in 2008 by Blackbird Vineyards' Proprietor Michael Polenske, this historic 1904 stone building serves as a stylized backdrop for Ma(i)sonry Napa Valley—"a life aesthetic." As an art, design, and collective wine-tasting gallery among an outdoor sculpture garden, Ma(i)sonry offers guests a differentiated lifestyle experience in wine country. Located in Yountville—a world-class culinary, wine, and tourism destination— Ma(i)sonry Napa Valley features a rotating collection of limited-production wines and internationally renowned art and furnishings to appreciate and acquire. Guests are welcome to peruse Ma(i)sonry's galleries seven days a week, with seasonal evening appointments until 10 p.m. For more information, please visit www.maisonry.com.    

About Hamilton's Gallery, London

Founded in 1977, Hamilton's is the UK's foremost photography gallery. Owner Tim Jeffries has run the business since 1984, specializing in mid and late twentieth century masters such as Irving Penn, Richard Avedon, and Herb Ritts, among others. Hamilton's is also involved in advising private and corporate collections on the very best acquisitions. <http://www.hamiltonsgallery.com/>.