



Santa Fe Art Institute

For immediate release

November 2, 2004

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Be a part of the conversation as **Santa Fe Art Institute (SFAI)** presents **First Thursdays**—a monthly series of informal salon gatherings for local artists and the community.

On **Thursday, December 2, 2004**, Santa Fe Art Institute hosts a **Member's and First Thursdays Salon forum** to discuss SFAI. We invite all in the community to participate in an open forum by asking questions, giving their opinions and joining a dialogue on the Santa Fe Art Institute's past year and its future direction.

Tell us what you think and get to know the people and ideas that make Santa Fe one of the richest creative centers in the country. A roaring fire and good food will be waiting for you in the intimate and welcoming atmosphere of the SFAI lounge.

Thursday, December 2, 2004 at 6:00 p.m.

Free and Open to the Public

SFAI takes as its mission an exploration of the intersections of contemporary art and society. By bringing together prominent individuals and institutions in the arts, sciences, and humanities, SFAI enlivens local, national, and international discourse through residencies, lectures, workshops, publications, exhibitions, and educational and outreach programming. Nurturing artists and providing a stimulating, creative atmosphere for their work serves society in an essential way and gives artists the support necessary to take risks and explore possibilities. For young people, the arts allow creativity and innovation to be valued along with the traditional skills for learning.

During seven months of the year, from May through November, the Santa Fe Art Institute's programming is focused around concept-based investigations. In 2004, **Transmit+Transform** centered on art and creative explorations for which sound and light are integral elements. The Artists Lecture & Workshop Series included public lectures by artists, scientists, theorists, and humanists from a variety of disciplines; intensive week-long workshops by visiting artists engaged in creating, and fostering the creation of, work related to the selected theme; and exhibitions and special events that complement programming. **Laurie Anderson's** Performance on November 16 will close the **Transmit+Transform** Season.

First Thursdays is funded in part with support from The Burnett Foundation, Lannan Foundation, and The McCune Charitable Foundation, and through a generous donation from Dick and Dottie Barrett.

For additional information, please contact firstthursdays@sfai.org.