

For Immediate Release

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**THE SANTA FE ART INSTITUTE
VISITING ARTIST LECTURE AND WORKSHOP SERIES
"COMFORTZONE"**

**PRESENTS VISUAL ARTIST
MEL CHIN**

Mel Chin was born in Houston to Chinese parents in 1951. He was the first of his family born in the United States, and was reared in a predominantly African-American and Latino neighborhood. He worked in his family's grocery store, and began making art at an early age. Though he is classically trained, Chin's art, which is both analytical and poetic, evades easy classification. Alchemy, botany, and ecology are a few of the disciplines that intersect his work that involves the exploration of art and social awareness and responsibility. Unconventional and politically engaged, Chin's projects challenge the idea of the artist as the exclusive creative force behind an artwork. "The survival of my own ideas may not be as important as a condition I might create for others' ideas to be realized," Chin says, who often enlists entire neighborhoods or groups of students in creative partnerships.

Lecture Date: August 6, 6 pm, Tipton Hall

Lecture Ticket Prices: \$5 general public, \$2.50 students, seniors and SFAI Members

Workshop: August 7-10, SFAI

Workshop Cost: \$400, Scholarships are available

Under the theme "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. For more information on the **>COMFORTZONE<** series, workshop scholarships please visit SFAI's website at www.sfai.org or call 505 424-5050.

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