

For Immediate Release

March 22, 2010

The SFAI Welcomes Multi-media, Environmental Artist

Patricia Johanson

What: Patricia Johanson **Lecture & Book Sale/Signing**

Where: Tipton Hall

When: April 26, 2010 @ 6pm

How Much: \$10 general admission | \$5 students/seniors/members

What: Patricia Johanson **Workshop**

Where: SFAI

When: April 24-25, 2010 @ 6pm

How Much: TBD

As part of our 2010 season of visiting artists and scholars, **Elemental: Earth, Air, Fire, Water**, the Santa Fe Art Institute is pleased to present multidisciplinary, environmental artist **Patricia Johanson**. Johanson will talk about her work at Tipton Hall on April 26th at 6pm. Her book *Art and Survival: Patricia Johanson's Environmental Projects* will be available for sale and signing after the lecture. Johanson's workshop time and content are still TBD.

In her 2006 book about Johanson's work, *Art and Survival*, Caffyn Kelley says, "For over twenty years Patricia Johanson has patiently insisted that art can help to heal the earth. For the last ten years she has been creating large-scale projects that posit a radical, yet utterly practical vision. She works with engineers, city planners, scientists and citizens' groups to create her art as functioning infrastructure for modern cities.

Johanson's designs for sewers, parks, and other functional projects not only speak to deep human needs for beauty, culture, and historical memory. She also answers to the needs of birds, insects, fish, animals, and microorganisms. Her art reclaims degraded ecologies and creates conditions that permit endangered species to thrive in the middle of urban centers.... Using the structures of nature as a way of thinking, she reconciles delicacy with strength, generosity with power, and creativity with consequence."

Praise for *Art and Survival: Patricia Johanson's Environmental Projects*

"Artist Patricia Johanson is one of the creative angels of these dark times, and Caffyn Kelley's vivid text carries the message. Johanson designed expanded site-works for congested waterfronts, endangered forests and urban wastelands. Each of her visionary ground plans is a saving grace for our earth-damaging culture. Here indeed is art for survival. Read this wonderful book!"

The Santa Fe Art Institute, an independent educational non-profit organization founded in 1985, is committed to programs that nurture artists and enhance and promote the arts as an essential element of American culture and society.

SFAI funding provided in part by The Burnett Foundation, The McCune Charitable Foundation, The Lannan Foundation, The Warhol Foundation, The Joan Mitchell Foundation, The Brindle Foundation, the City of Santa Fe Arts Commission and the 1% Lodgers' Tax and by New Mexico Arts, a Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs.

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- Eleanor Munro, author of *Originals: American Women Artists*

“This is an invaluable book. *Art and Survival* details the evolution of Patricia Johanson's work from her minimalist paintings through her innovative, bio-intensive structures of the last two decades. Kelley's clear,

compelling text covers practical concerns and aesthetic considerations, while demonstrating that Johanson never stops challenging art's nature, capacity, audience and role.”

- Sue Spaid, author of *Ecovention: Current Art to Transform Ecologies*

“Looking and reading through this long-awaited book, I'm astounded all over again, as I have been over the years when called upon to focus on Patricia Johanson's art and ideas. Her achievements on the ground and in the imagination are breathtaking... As Caffyn Kelley writes in the course of this excellent narrative, she "reconciles delicacy with strength, generosity with power, and creativity with consequence." There is no better and more crucially needed model for the future of our gardens, parks, and planet than Patricia Johanson's art.”

- Lucy Lippard, Introduction to *Art and Survival*

For more information please contact Michelle Laflamme-Childs at mchilds@sfai.org or call (505) 424-5050.

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