



Santa Fe Art Institute

For immediate release

The SFAI's 2009 Youth Education and Outreach Program presents:

First Collections Art Exchange

with Site Biennial Artist and SFAI Artist Resident

Soun Hong

Internationally known painter **Soun Hong's** installation in the **SITE Santa Fe's Biennial, "Lucky Number 7,"** was a stunning array of paintings challenging the viewer to see from a different perspective. For Santa Fe's teenagers, seeing the world from a different perspective is natural, and as teenagers, often seems to be what they do best.

In a five day workshop teen artists had the opportunity to study with Hong, as he visited their art classes in Santa Fe's public middle and high schools to lead students through an intensive and very special art workshop. SFAI is delighted to offer the students intimate access to such a great painter. Not only did students from Capitol High School, Charter School 37, and Capshaw Middle School work with the artist, but at the end of the workshop each student exchanged the painting s/he made during the workshop with Hong for one of the paintings previously exhibited at SITE Santa Fe. In addition, Hong plans to make a catalog of students' work and each student will receive a copy with his/her painting published in it.

Hong believes strongly in the power of art to change the way we see the world, as individuals and as a culture. He hopes to inspire young people to paint, but also to appreciate and engage with other people's artwork. By making paintings in similar vein to Hong's own work, students gained a deeper understanding and connection to the process of appropriation and to the artwork they will be given. As an added bonus, they send Hong home with images from the youth engagement of Santa Fe's art-world.

For more information, photos, or interview requests, please contact Johanna Kohout at jkohout@sfai.org or call (505) 424-5050.

This series partially funded by 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, the Brown Foundation, the McCune Foundation, and the Lannan Foundation.

SANTA FE ART INSTITUTE 1600 ST.MICHAELS DRIVE, SANTA FE, NM 87505. MAIL TO: P.O.Box 24044, SANTA FE, NM 87502. T (505) 424 5050. F (505) 424 5051
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. Visit our website at www.sfai.org.