

**For Immediate Release** - May 2, 2011

## Artist and Educator - Kim Stringfellow

**Lecture – Friday May 20, 6pm Tipton Hall, \$10 general, \$5 students/seniors/sfai members**

**Workshop – Historical, Ecological and Activist Issues in Art – Saturday & Sunday, May 21-22, 10am – 4pm SFAI, \$200**

Kim Stringfellow is an artist/educator residing in Joshua Tree, California. Her work and research interests address ecological, historical, and activist issues related to land use and the built environment through hybrid documentary forms incorporating writing, digital media, photography, audio, video, installation, mapping, and locative media. She teaches in the Multimedia area as an Associate Professor in School of Art, Design, and Art History at San Diego State University. She received her MFA in Art and Technology from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2000. For more information on her work, please visit: [www.kimstringfellow.com](http://www.kimstringfellow.com).

### About her projects

JACKRABBIT HOMESTEAD – [www.jackrabbithomestead.com](http://www.jackrabbithomestead.com)

Jackrabbit Homestead is a Web-based multimedia presentation featuring a downloadable car audio tour exploring the cultural legacy of the Small Tract Act in Southern California's Morongo Basin region near Joshua Tree National Park. Stories from this underrepresented regional history are told through the voices of local residents, historians, and area artists—many of whom reside in reclaimed historic cabins and use the structures as inspiration for their creative work. The California Council for the Humanities California Story Fund initiative funded the creation of the audio tour, which may be downloaded for free at the project's website. The book, *Jackrabbit Homestead: Tracing the Small Tract Act in the Southern California Landscape, 1938–2008* was published by the Center for American Places in fall 2009.

INVISIBLE-5 – [www.invisible5.org](http://www.invisible5.org)

Invisible-5 is a self-guided audio car tour investigating the stories of people and communities fighting for environmental justice along the I-5 corridor between San Francisco and Los Angeles through oral histories, field recordings, found sound, recorded music, and archival audio documents. The project also traces natural, social, and economic histories along the route. Invisible-5 was produced collaboratively by artists; Amy Balkin, Tim Halbur, and Kim Stringfellow with nonprofit organizations, Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice and POND, the project's fiscal sponsor. The audio tour may be downloaded from the project's website. This project was featured on The California Report (KQED San Francisco) in 2006.

GREETINGS FROM THE SALTON SEA – [www.greetingsfromsaltonsea.com](http://www.greetingsfromsaltonsea.com)

Greetings from the Salton Sea is a book, physical installation, and Website project documenting the social and environmental history of the Salton Sea, a troubled saline body of water located in southern California near the Mexican border. *Greetings from the Salton Sea: Folly and Intervention in the Southern California Landscape, 1905-2005* was published by the Center for American Places in 2005 and is scheduled for reprint for fall 2011. The project's website was included in "Ecotopia: The Second Triennial of Photography and Video" at the International Center for Photography (ICP) in NYC in 2006/07.

### About the SFAI

Founded in 1985, the Santa Fe Art Institute's mission is to promote art as a positive social force — both in our community and around the world — and to highlight art as a powerful tool for facilitating dialogue, bridging perspectives, and evoking visions of a better future.

### About Half Life - Patterns of Change: Cycles of Creation, Decay, and Renewal in Art and Life

When an object or system stops performing its assigned function in contemporary society, we tend to replace it rather than repair it. However, artists redefine useless as useful by creating a new life for objects, and that renewed life alters the role of these objects entirely. Artists work similar magic with degraded landscapes, blighted neighborhoods, and other systems—infusing them with new purpose and expanding the potential for positive change. Ideally, this change is accomplished with the participation of the surrounding communities — transforming not only objects and systems, but also the communities themselves.

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**For more information about this or any SFAI event, please contact Michelle Laflamme-Childs at [mchilds@sfaai.org](mailto:mchilds@sfaai.org) or call (505) 424-5050.**

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