

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**For Local Artist, The Answer Is Blowing in the Wind
“Forsaken” exhibit by Montena Fink-Lacy features photos and paintings
of airborne debris recycled into “art in motion”**

AUSTIN, TEXAS (July 11, 2012) — Austin artist Montena Fink-Lacy has taken the phrase “one man’s trash is another man’s treasure” to a whole new, and higher, level.

In her paintings and photographs on exhibit at The Gallery at Beets Café, the artist captures the uncommon beauty of the common detritus of society – the plastic flotsam that has fluttered and soared along America’s highways and byways, only to come to its uneasy rest in the grasping branches of trees or upon the unforgiving barbs of fences.

"Forsaken" is a collection of acrylic paintings and photographic images of various items - mostly plastics - that have been picked up by the wind, hurled into the air, and carried off to become tangled, knotted, snagged, and stuck in trees and fences along the highways. Montena first began capturing images of these “works of art in their new environments - sculptures in motion” in 2008.

“Though my friends affectionately call this the ‘trash series’, I don’t consider this trash,” says Montena. “I believe these images are metaphors of life and how it looks after taking an unexpected course. To the casual passerby these items may appear useless or ‘forsaken’, but to the curious they are treasures waiting to be discovered - inspirations of hope and beauty.”

Montena is an accomplished painter with numerous awards, including local honors such as Top Ten Finalist in Hangar Orthopedics juried show, Artroduction, and runner-up Best in Show for Flatbed Press’ Gathering of Photographers Winter 2010 juried show.

“Forsaken” is on exhibit until August 26th at The Gallery at Beets Café, located at 1611 W. Fifth Street in Austin. Beets, a trendy raw food urban eatery, serves as a perfect venue for the exhibit. There will be an artist’s reception at the gallery from 6 p .m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, July 14. The exhibit and artist’s reception are sponsored by Diane Graden, owner of Frames of Reference, a frequent sponsor of events introducing and supporting emerging artists in the Austin area.

“I’m excited to bring Montena’s work to a larger audience,” said Diane Graden, owner of Frames of Reference, an independent gallery curator that uses any and all walls in the greater Austin area to create professional art exhibitions and related events. “There’s a very powerful statement about our society in her images. They are simultaneously beautiful and sad - and this artist has captured that essence.”

About Frames of Reference

Frames of Reference acts as an independent gallery curator using any and all walls in the greater Austin area. Owner Diane Graden creates professional art exhibitions and related events in unexpected places such as banks, medical offices, or any office space wanting to showcase the works of an amazing array of local artists. Area businesses engage Graden’s expertise to host art exhibits as a combination community outreach and unique marketing tool. The mission of Frames of Reference is to bring the gallery experience to the community for the purpose of art education and sheer enjoyment.

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