



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Swarm Gallery proudly launches new residency program in Jack London neighborhood!

**OAKLAND, Calif.** – 12 June 2009 – Oakland's Swarm Gallery is pleased to announce the launch of a new collaboration with partners Metrovation Development and New York's Mixed Greens Gallery. **The Nest** is an artist residency in the heart of the Ironworks District, a historic manufacturing area close to Oakland's Jack London Square. Located at 200 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, the Nest is an emerging locale for contemporary art that engages with site, architecture, and the concerns of public and private spheres. The first participating artist, Sarah Kabot, is in residence through June 30. A reception for the artist will be held on Friday, June 26, from 5-7 pm.

Sarah Kabot's work highlights the geometries of the urban landscape, subtly yet unmistakably exposing the underlying structure that makes a place. Kabot works in ephemeral materials like paper and tape. Her reiterations of the spaces in which she works are faithful, but slightly shifted. As she superimposes a simulacra of site onto the real thing, Kabot lets her sleight-of-hand show just a bit, creating a perceptual disconnection for the viewer.

Sarah Kabot has had solo exhibitions at Sculpture Center, Cleveland, Ohio, Sasaki, Watertown, Mass., and Smack Mellon Gallery, Brooklyn, New York, and been in group shows at Tracy Williams Ltd., New York, Mixed Greens Gallery, and The Drawing Center, New York. She has an MFA from Cranbrook Academy of Art and a BFA from University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Kabot lives and works near Cleveland, Ohio.

During the residency at Nest, Kabot will be living and working inside of a street-level live-work unit at Metrovation's recently developed building at 200 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Metrovation has been partnering with Swarm and other Ironworks businesses for years, to establish a lively art corridor that has enriched the neighborhood tremendously. David Baker's airy modern architecture provides a versatile environment that will be activated both inside and outside by the resident artists' projects. The Nest will host an ongoing program of 1-2 month residencies, with curatorial support from partnering galleries.

Metrovation has already commissioned two Swarm artists, Casey Jex Smith and Andrew Schoultz, to create permanent installations in the building's lobby. The Nest deepens this relationship between art, architecture and urban planning, by offering artists an immersive live-work experience tied to the neighborhood's history and community. Like many cities in the midst of significant revitalization efforts, Oakland is feeling the effects of economic slowdown. The Nest artists help the Ironworks neighborhood by attracting interest, investment, and creative energy while engaging both aesthetically and socially with their surroundings.

New York's Mixed Greens Gallery is the first national gallery to collaborate with Swarm on artist nominations for The Nest. Mixed Greens was founded to give emerging artists a wider audience. At present, Mixed Greens represents 22 emerging artists through its website, catalogues, gallery exhibitions and traveling shows.

## PRESS CONTACT and IMAGES

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