



News Release

L.B. Museum, Port Present Art Exhibit

Livingston's 'pinhole' photographs presented through September 28

May 30, 2008

"The Art of Commerce," a collection of spectacular photographs capturing the industrial beauty of the Port of Long Beach with a historic pinhole-camera process, is now on display at the Long Beach Museum of Art through September 28, 2008.

The exhibition is a partnership between the Port, the Museum and photographer William Livingston, who created the large-scale images with a pinhole-style camera. Livingston's images merge this historic process with the modern commercial shipping activities at the Port.

"As a member of the Long Beach Museum of Art Foundation Board, I am delighted to see that this exhibit honors the Port's important place in commerce and art," said Harbor Commissioner Doris Topsy-Elvord. "These photographs show that there is beauty all around us and we can see that in these artful Port images."

"The Art of Commerce" is now on display in the Museum's Jean and Charles Lane Oceanview Gallery, whose south-facing, second-floor wall of windows offers dramatic views of the Port of Long Beach.

Livingston is a commercial and fine arts photographer who has worked for Oakley, NASCAR, Toyota, Lexus and other clients. He began experimenting with pinhole photography, the oldest photographic process, in the early 1990s.

"Using the pinhole camera, a box stripped of all the latest technology, the 4 by 5 inch film is exposed simply by the amount of light allowed through the pinhole during exposure," Livingston said. "Unlike traditional photography with clear imagery and crisp edges, the long exposure times and lack of optical glass in pinhole photography impart a softened, painterly quality."

In conjunction with the exhibit, the Museum is planning educational activities for children and adults that will explore the concepts and techniques of pinhole photography and allow participants to create their own photographs using pinhole cameras. The results will be on display for the public at the Museum and at the Port's annual Green Port Fest on October 4, 2008.

