



## **PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN ARTS COMMISSION—ART IN PUBLIC PLACES: NEW EXHIBIT AND FREE LECTURE AT SMUD GALLERY**

#### **SMUD ART EXHIBIT AND FREE LECTURE BY SUSAN WILLOUGHBY—OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**EXHIBIT TITLE:** ART IS A REAL JOB: A Selection of Late 1970s Artwork from the CETA Program.

**ARTISTS:** Patrick Mooney, John Motlow, John Paquette, Don Reich, Sheila Sullivan, David White

**LOCATION:** SMUD Art Gallery, in the lobby of the SMUD Energy and Technology Center at 6301 S St. (at 65th St), in Sacramento. Gallery hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**EXHIBIT DATES:** June 2 – July 11, 2008

**PUBLIC LECTURE AND RECEPTION:** Wednesday, June 25th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.—lecture begins at 6:00 p.m. **Art Consultant, Susan Willoughby** will discuss the history of the Sacramento CETA Program which offered employment opportunities to local artists.

*IMAGE ATTACHED: "Needs No Command", 1978 oil on canvas by David White*

The SMUD Gallery and the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission (SMAC) present the work of six artists who were employed through the visionary CETA program in the late 1970s. The artwork on display covers the mediums of painting, drawing, printmaking and photography.

The Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) is a United States federal law enacted in 1973 to train workers and provide them with jobs in the public service. The intent was to encourage participants to move on to an unsubsidized job. As a result, thousands of artists were put to work across the country on a scale similar to that of the WPA era of the 1930s.

In the spring of 1976, Sacramento Mayor Phil Isenberg asked that a CETA arts program be organized to employ artists living within the City limits. In 1977 the County Board of Supervisors added a program for artists living within Sacramento County. Assessment studies eventually found that the artist program had a higher "positive transition" rate than any other type of training program under CETA. Based on this success, the local CETA program was eventually expanded to include literary and performing artists.

The SMUD Art Gallery is a partnership between the Sacramento Municipal Utility District and the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission with additional support from the City and County of Sacramento.

For more information on the art exhibit or other SMAC or APP programs, please call (916) 566-3992 or log onto [www.sacmetroarts.org](http://www.sacmetroarts.org).

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