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**PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

***Full Deck: A Short History of Skate Art***  
**Exhibition Opening Reception February 16, 2012**  
**At RAFFMA, the CSUSB Museum of Art**

An entire sub-culture made-up of individuals who value creativity and freedom of expression has found a way to display its artistic side, or should we say underside, by using skateboard decks as a blank canvas.

The hidden underside of skateboards, commonly called decks, will be on display when “Full Deck” comes to the Robert and Frances Fullerton Museum of Art. The exhibition opens at the Cal State San Bernardino museum Feb. 18 and runs through April 21. An opening reception will take place on Feb. 16 from 6-8 p.m.

The show is an anthology of skate art from the 1960’s to the present. Close to 300 decks borrowed from artists, skaters, and companies from across the country will be on display at RAFFMA.

“The eye-catching images on the bottom of a skateboard are one of the purest forms of self-expression: highly personal and mostly created without artistic boundaries—just like skateboarding itself,” says exhibit curator Carrie Lederer. She is curator of exhibitions and programs at the Bedford Gallery, Leshner Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek.

“Since the first graphic was drawn onto a board, the culture of skateboarding has grown hand-in-hand with visual arts.”

The exhibition features historic decks from private collections, unique hand-painted decks, commercial boards, photography, painting, prints, sculpture, and video.

Nationally-known pro skater, Corey Duffel, who was raised in Walnut Creek, contributed selections from his private collection to the show. It is travelling from the Bedford to museums, galleries and universities across North America.

The exhibit includes elegant one-of-a-kind hand-stained decks by Skip Engblom, co-founder of Zepher Skate Shop and profiled in the Hollywood film “Lords of Dogtown.” The show also has a

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collection of early boards, circa 1960, on loan from pro skater Sam Cunningham, and a broad range of now rare commercial decks (Element, enjoi, Krooked, etc.) from the collection of Mark Whiteley, Editor of SLAP magazine in San Francisco. Jason Strubing, owner of Skateworks in Santa Cruz, also contributed a large selection of significant and historic decks from his collection. Metro Skate (Pleasant Hill), StreetCorner Skate (San Francisco), and Thrasher magazine (San Francisco) also loaned skate art to “Full Deck.” A selection of skate photography by Bryce Kanights, Tobin Yelland and others will also be on view.

**Artists include:**

Neil Blender  
Eric Bird  
Todd Bratrud  
Sean Cliver  
Skip Engblom  
Lori D.  
Ken Davis  
Todd Francis  
Mike Giant  
Mark Gonzales  
Mahtab Habibian  
Evan Hecox  
Ian Johnson  
V. Courtlandt Johnson  
Bryce Kanights  
Obi Kaufmann  
Natas Kaupas  
Mike Kershner  
Billy Kroft

Tom Ledin  
Gwen Manfrin  
Mike Miller  
Matt 136  
Mofo  
Johnny Mojo  
Lance Mountain  
Jim Phillips  
Jimbo Phillips  
Pushead  
Jenny Schmid  
Kirk Shelton  
Stix and Jones  
Chase Tafoya  
Jake Watling  
Derek Weisberg  
Tobin Yelland  
and many more

**Lenders include:**

Mark Aviles  
Sam Cunningham, Manifest Bikes  
Ken Davis  
Mark D’Estout  
Corey Duffel  
NHS, Santa Cruz Skate Shop  
Metro Board Shop  
Girl Skateboards  
Jason Strubing, Skateworks Skateshop  
Winston Tseng, Enjoi  
Gwynn Vitello, Thrasher Magazine  
Western Edition  
Mark Whiteley, SLAP  
Element  
Foundation

***About RAFFMA***

The Robert and Frances Fullerton Museum of Art is a nationally recognized museum accredited by the American Association of Museums. RAFFMA has accumulated a permanent collection of nearly 1,200 objects focusing on Egyptian antiquities, ceramics and contemporary art. Located at Cal State San Bernardino, RAFFMA houses the largest permanent and public display of Egyptian art in Southern California.

General admission to the museum is free. Suggested donation is \$3. Parking at Cal State San Bernardino is \$5 per vehicle. The museum is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and is closed Friday and Sunday. For more information, call (909) 537-7373 or visit the RAFFMA website at <http://raffma.csusb.edu>.

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