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FOR-SITE Foundation: Donald Fortescue named 2006 Education Fellow

San Francisco - The FOR-SITE Foundation has awarded its first Educator Fellowship to Donald Fortescue, associate professor and chair of the wood/furniture program at California College of the Arts.

Australian born and educated, Fortescue maintained a commercial furniture studio in Australia for ten years, working with leading furniture makers and craftspeople from Australia, the UK, Japan, and the US. He has resided in the US since 1997.

Fortescue has exhibited internationally and is the recipient of many grants and awards. He was one of the first artists to receive the Experimental Design Award given by the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. In conjunction with this honor, the museum mounted a one-person exhibition of his work in 2001. The artist's work is in numerous public and private collections, including the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Museum of Arts and Design in New York, the National Gallery of Australia, and the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney.

Education Program

The goal of the education program is to enrich the learning experience of graduate-level art students affiliated with FOR-SITE's educational partners. The FOR-SITE Foundation fulfills this goal by providing learning opportunities that extend beyond the parameters of traditional academic curricula.

The Foundation initiated the program in 2003 with on-site pilot projects in collaboration with the University of California at Berkeley and the California College of the Arts. Walter Hood's UC Berkeley graduate class in landscape architecture designed a meditation zone between human habitation and the surrounding wilderness. Donald Fortescue used the residency site to give students a firsthand appreciation of the organic properties of wood.

The FOR-SITE Foundation education program is composed of two principal components:

FOR-SITE Educator Fellowship and Practicum

The board of directors of the FOR-SITE Foundation awards an annual fellowship to a gifted educator affiliated with one of the foundation's educational partners. The fellow receives a monetary award and is given the opportunity to organize a course or seminar at the residency site for the benefit of students at the school with which the fellow is associated.

FOR-SITE Dialogues

Each year the FOR-SITE Foundation organizes a dialogue with an internationally recognized thinker (critic, social commentator, artist, or educator). The foundation's educational partners invite a set number of graduate students to participate in these dialogues held at the residency site. The foundation hopes to provide stipends to cover the travel and lodging expenses of student attendees.

About the FOR-SITE Foundation

The FOR-SITE Foundation, a non-profit organization, is dedicated to the creation, understanding, and presentation of art about place. FOR-SITE was created in 2003 to encourage the development of new work for exhibition in public institutions.