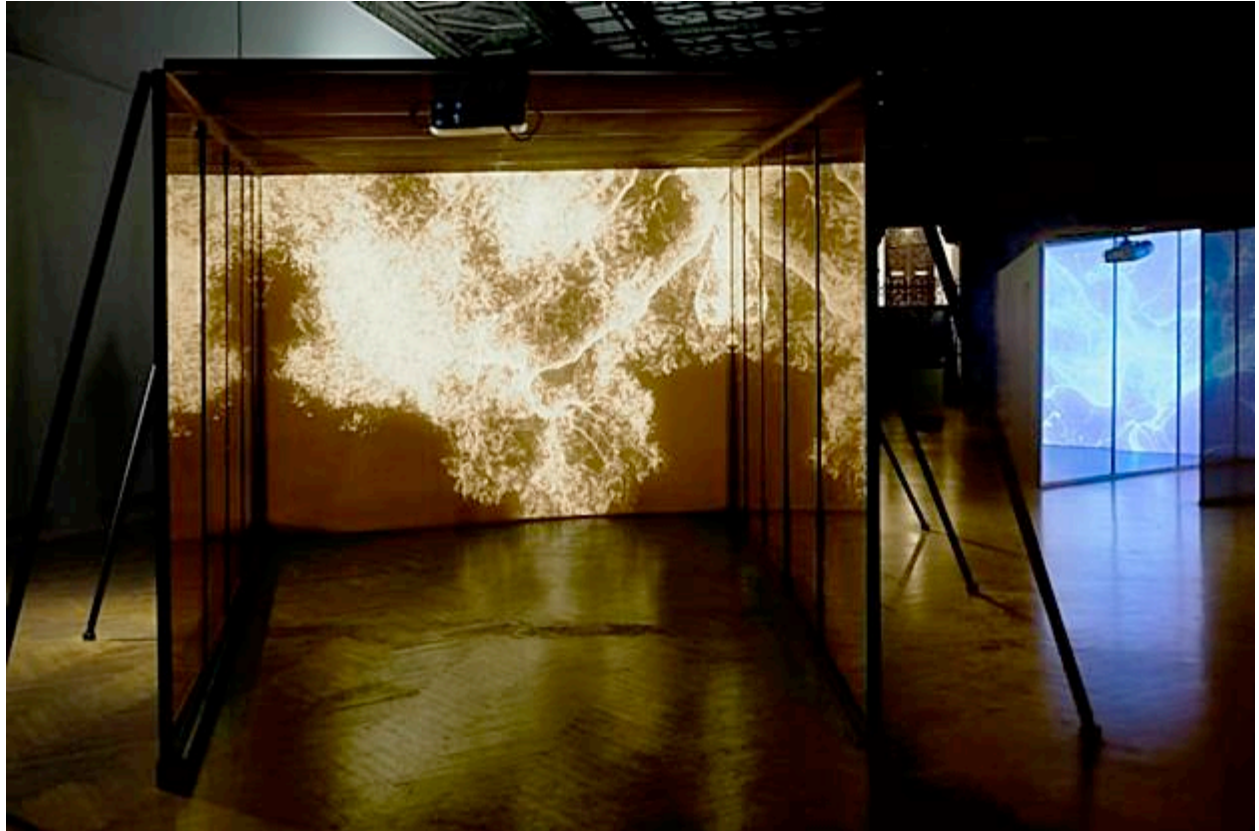


# San Francisco Chronicle

## Art Review: Mitzi Pederson and Pae White

by Kenneth Baker

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Pae White's "Dying Oak Tree" (2009), left, digital animation projected in a mirrored pavilion, is part of the exhibition "In Between the Inside-Out."

**Pae White returns:** Anyone who missed the intriguing show of Los Angeles artist Pae White's work at the - temporarily, one hopes - defunct New Langton Arts, can see an expanded version, also organized by New Langton director Sandra Percival, at the Mills College Art Museum.

By far the most impressive pieces here take the form of projected video, sophisticated mergers of 3-D digital scanning and computer animation.

On a recent residency at the For Site Foundation in Nevada City, White had a scan made of a 500-year-old oak tree on the For Site property.

The animation projects the processed information in sepia, within a tight, mirrored enclosure that White calls a "pavilion." It presents a continually revolving and levitating passage around and through the substance of the tree. The data clusters form points of light that at some moments appear to translate the tree into a contour map, at other moments into a galaxy.

The elevating, hypnotic effect of "Dying Oak Tree" (2009) is felt somewhat differently in two related pieces here, which respectively give similar treatment to a wild raspberry bush and a manzanita grove.

On a pair of low plinths nearby, White has crowded two ensembles of borrowed ceramics - one from the Mills museum, the other from collector Joseph Meade. The hint of cityscape in each collection reminds us we are looking at earthen structures that also map a cultural terrain of styles, techniques and taste.

The metaphorical linkages proliferate in White's show but they weaken as they do. One departs more impressed by a few striking things - the videos and five tapestries that describe smoke - than by their implied kinship.

Pae White: In Between the Inside-Out: Sculpture and video. Through Oct. 18. Mills College Art Museum, Mills College, 5000 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. (510) 430-2164, [www.mills.edu/museum](http://www.mills.edu/museum).

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