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University Art Gallery to Exhibit 20 Years of Bob DeBris’ Photography

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- Cal Poly's Art and Design Department will show the work of unconventional Ojai photographer Bob DeBris in the University Art Gallery's next exhibit, Feb. 11 through March 11.

DeBris refers to the exhibit, which features works spanning two decades, as “Wrecktrospective.” It includes candid shots of people being themselves -- aging burlesque stars, Mexican wrestlers, Elvis impersonators or "stars in their own comic opera."

"DeBris brings out the performer in everyone," writes Caroline Allen of UC Santa Barbara’s College of Creative Studies.

“Ginny Brush, curator of the DeBris exhibit at the Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum, refers to DeBris as a "cultural anthropologist" capturing the "surreal, unpretentious, genuine qualities of whatever roadside attraction he comes across."

The exhibit will open with a photo shoot from 1 to 4 p.m. Feb. 11 in the courtyard of the Dexter Building, where the University Art Gallery is located. From 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. a free, public reception will be held in the gallery, and at 6:30 p.m. Brush, also a photographer, will give a slide presentation about DeBris' work. Brush’s talk will be in Room 227 in the Dexter Building.

The exhibit is on loan from the Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum. The University Art Gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday.

For more information, call the University Art Gallery at 756-1571.

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