Biography for Catharine Clark

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Catharine Clark is the owner and director of Catharine Clark Gallery, established in 1991, initially as Morphos Gallery. Since its inception, the gallery, first in Hayes Valley, more recently at 49 Geary, and since June of 2007 at 150 Minna Street, has made a commitment to support the presentation of art that challenges the status quo and invites new ways of seeing the world. Sometimes beautiful (sometimes not conventionally so) and regularly political, the art work the gallery exhibits strives to deconstruct topical issues through the presentation of works that often address difficult subjects, such as American political or foreign policy, organized religion, gender issues, and environmental concerns, among other topics.

In 2002 the gallery established a media room to allow artists the space to promote new technologies in contemporary art—and was the first San Francisco gallery to dedicate time and space to regular video programming. The gallery program overall has also been adventurous in presenting monumentally-scaled, unframed wall-sized drawings on paper, sound installations, net art, conceptual works, and socially engaged practices and endeavors to continue supporting the presentation of forward-looking ideas in whatever media the artists choose to work.

Catharine Clark was born in raised in San Francisco. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree with honors in Art History from the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia in 1990. She has guest lectured at universities, museums and other institutions throughout the United States and Canada. Between 1999 and 2002 she team taught a professional practices course at the San Francisco Art Institute with her husband, the artist, Ray Beldner. In 2006 she authored an essay for and edited the monograph, Ascending Chaos: The Art of Masami Teraoka 1966-2006, published by Chronicle Books. Catharine Clark Gallery is a member of the San Francisco Art Dealer’s Association. Catharine is a board member of ZER01, an advisory board member of SF Recycling & Disposal, Inc. artist residency program, and advisory board member of ATC (The Art, Technology, and Culture Colloquium at UC Berkeley’s Center for New Media), and advisory board member of San Francisco Arts Education Project. The gallery regularly participates in international art fairs in Miami, New York, London, and Brussels, among other cities.