



City of Tracy Cultural Arts Division News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEW EXHIBITION EXPLORES THE VALUE OF FEMININE IDENTITY

Misty Gamble – Tanning and the Proprieties of Worth

(Tracy, CA) – The City of Tracy – Cultural Arts Division presents *Misty Gamble – Tanning and the Proprieties of Worth*, presented in the GWF Energy Gallery from January 28th through March 10th, 2012. An Opening Reception is scheduled for Saturday, January 28th from 12 to 2 PM. All of these associated events are free and open to the public.

Tanning and the Proprieties of Worth presents a body of thematic works by Misty Gamble. Working in large format ceramic sculpture, spatial art and installation, she explores feminine identity through clever design, dramatic contrasts and grotesque exaggerations. Her fashioned females not only display the price they have paid to conform to modern standards of beauty, but reveal their complicity in the distortion of beauty and value.

Ms. Gamble states, "*The sculpted figure provides a perfect vehicle for communicating ideas about traditional notions of beauty and the way women are viewed and valued in a male-dominated society. From primping, beauty regimens and accessorizing to accepted standards of behavior, propriety and societal expectations, my work explores issues related to power and beauty and how they impact womanhood. Through my work, I ask the questions... What is considered beautiful as one ages? Do women empower or de-empower themselves through cosmetic enhancement? How do power and beauty relate to women in a patriarchal world? What is the cultural significance of the Chanel suit to a woman of this present era? When does a woman's beauty quest surpass in significance her ability and need to be capable?*"

Misty Gamble is a celebrated artist, arts educator and administrator. As a child she was immersed in the art of puppetry and the performing arts that led to a career in the entertainment industry as an agent, publicist and event coordinator. Misty holds a B.A. in Studio Art from California State University – East Bay and an M.F.A. in Ceramics from San Francisco State University. She has been exhibiting professionally across America since 2003, and currently resides in Kansas City, MO, where she is a full time faculty member at the Kansas City Art Institute.

About the Grand Theatre Center for the Arts and the Grand Galleries

The Grand Theatre Center for the Arts is a unique interdisciplinary arts center offering professional and community-based fine arts programming through arts education, exhibitions, and performances of all kinds. The facility opened in September of 2007 and is celebrating its 5th Anniversary 2011-12 Season. The Center is owned and operated by the City of Tracy. The Arts Leadership Alliance/Grand Foundation is a private 501.C3 fundraising and community partner of the facility.

The Exhibitions Program offers combinations of professionally produced exhibitions and visual arts-based events featuring local, regional, national, and international artists, as well as arts educators and organizations in all disciplines and genres. Often events are presented in collaboration with the Arts Education and Presenting Programs to develop educational and interactive components such as demonstrations, gallery talks, receptions, residencies, and workshops. Exhibitions are displayed in the Grand Galleries across the historic storefronts on

Central Avenue and throughout public spaces in the Center. As the Galleries are part of a larger interdisciplinary arts center fostering community involvement and life-long learning, products incorporating arts education and art making are encouraged.

Public hours for the Grand Galleries are Tuesday – Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., and one hour prior to all performances on the Grand Theatre stages. Private viewings may also be arranged. Free parking is available on nearby streets and public lots at 6th Street and Central Avenue. Patron drop-off and pick-up is available at the gallery entrance, in the loading zone on Central Avenue. Tours are available and private and group gallery talks can be arranged. The Grand Galleries are accessible to persons with disabilities and patrons are asked to call ahead to address special requests and needs at (209) 831-6ART (6278). Exhibitions are free and open to the public.

To arrange a facility tour, visit online at www.atthegrand.org, or call Patron Services at the Leona Darr Willis Box Office at 209.831.6TKT (6858). Public hours for the Box Office are Monday – Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., and one hour prior to all performances on the Grand Theatre stages.

Note to Editor: Gallery Supervisor, William F. Wilson II is available for interviews.
Promotional images are available upon request. Please call (209) 831-6299 or email: william.wilson@ci.tracy.ca.us



Photo Credit: Misty Gamble – *Chanel no.2* – Image courtesy of Dan Wayne. All rights reserved.

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