



Seattle University  
Fine Arts Department  
Lee Center for the Arts  
Hedreen Gallery

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Kill Date: March 13, 2007

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**EXHIBIT:** Charting Maps: The Topography of Contemporary Art  
**ARTIST:** Leo Saul Berk, Kristen Ramirez, Bradley Winchester  
**MEDIUM:** Mixed  
**OPENING:** Thursday January 25<sup>th</sup> 5-8pm  
**RUN OF SHOW:** January 26 – March 13, 2007

**GALLERY HOURS:** Tuesday – Saturday 1:30-6:00pm  
**ADMISSION:** open to the public, always free  
**LOCATION:** Seattle University Lee Center for the Arts  
901 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue (at 12<sup>th</sup> & Marion)  
**FOR MORE INFO CALL:** 206.296.2244

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**Seattle** - The physical landscape has never been more fully mapped than it is today. With geographically precise atlases, web-based map servers and geotags, we locate ourselves and plot our itineraries with ease. But the landscape is psychological as well as physical; geography (like memory) is associative, and many contemporary artists borrow from map aesthetics to explore the topographical imaginary. In distinctive ways, the three artists of *Charting Maps*—Leo Saul Berk, Kristen Ramirez and Brad Winchester—map the personal landscape onto the material.

Using 3D modeling software and machine-driven colored pens, Leo Saul Berk creates a glittering aircscape that resembles an elevation contour drawing. The work is ethereal, made of real and imaginary light and seeming to billow in the wind, but the distinctly man-made technology of mark-making turns unknowable territory into a legible space.

Kristen Ramirez's maps guide us back to ourselves, transmuting familiar landscapes by imbuing them with personal histories. For the *Seattle Postcard Project* Ramirez cut her own letterpress map of Seattle into postcards, asking recipients "What do you know about Seattle?" Self-addressed and stamped, the cards made their way back to Ramirez with messages both poetic and pragmatic, such as a mnemonic device for Seattle's downtown streets – "Jesus Christ Made Seattle Under Pressure." Reassembled in the gallery, *Seattle Postcard Project* reveals the mental terrain of our city.

Brad Winchester's paintings also map our world, but on a more national scale. Beginning with meteorological maps, Winchester repositions the chaotic images of famous storms within a painted grid, building his canvas block by block. What results is a sublime balance between the formality of the grid and the powerful swirl of a natural storm.

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Leo Saul Berk received his MFA from the University of Washington, Seattle. He has exhibited at such institutions as the University Art Museum, Long Beach; Bellevue Art Museum, Bellevue, WA; and Art Gym at Marylhurst University, Portland. He is represented by Howard House in Seattle.

Kristen Ramirez is an artist and arts educator from San Francisco, California who now calls Seattle home. She completed her MFA in printmaking from the University of Washington in 2004 and works in all types of print processes, but especially loves letterpress, silkscreen and relief printing.

Bradley Winchester received his BFA in painting from The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL. He has shown at Philip Slein Gallery, St. Louis, MO and received numerous painting awards. *Charting Maps* is his Seattle debut.

### **Hedreen Gallery Mission:**

The Hedreen Gallery at the Lee Center for the Arts is dedicated to the vibrancy of Seattle's artistic community. Our mission is to support the work of emerging artists and exhibit new work by established artists: local, national, international. We strive to catalyze artistic process and dialogue: to connect artists, audiences, and resources: and to engage the community in the arts.

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