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"Photo Binge," a collage of images by artist Colette Fu, is on display on the mezzanine at the 7th St./Metro Center Station. Below, an image from the Metro Art Lightbox Program installation.



New Photo Installation on Display at 7th St./Metro Center Metro Station

· Photo series satirizes an obsessive urban culture

By DAVE SOTERO

(Feb. 16, 2006) An intriguing installation of work by award-winning artist Colette Fu, entitled "Photo Binge", has been installed in the 7th St./Metro Station as part of the Metro Art Lightbox Program.

The six-month exhibition, arranged in seven large lightboxes on the station's west mezzanine, presents a colorful display that engages Metro riders on their daily commute.

Fu was one of six artists from among 189 applicants whose work was selected by a panel of artists and curators for display in Metro Rail stations.

"The response from our customers has been outstanding," said Jorge Pardo, Metro's public arts and design manager. "The glowing imagery generates lively feedback and makes for a more interesting station environment."

'Photo Binge' satirizes an urban culture that focuses on food, health, nutrition, beauty and the surface of things. The collage of images depicts various binge activities such as eating, exercising and shopping.

"My attempt is to show the destructive impulses...of what has become a daily preoccupation of millions of people," says Fu.

Two other artists to show work

The work of two other artists will be installed at Metro Red Line stations later this month:

Bay-area artist Stephen Galloway's work will be displayed on the mezzanine at the Wilshire/Normandie Station. 'Coming and Going' features a series of seven images of a mighty tree laid horizontally.

"This series of images addresses environmental concerns by examining the structure of our relationship to the environment," says Galloway.

Work by Soo Kim, a Los Angeles-area artist, will be located in the Hollywood/Highland station. 'The Future's Owned by You and Me' presents vaguely familiar spaces within the context of transportation.

"The images disrupt the sense of place usually established in photographs, confusing intimacy and distance, difference and sameness," she says. "In these images, there lives the idea of being somewhere and nowhere simultaneously."

Established in 2001 to provide quality photography exhibits to a broad audience of transit users, the Metro Art Lightbox Program has drawn submittals from hundreds of artists nationwide.

Past displays have included such well known artists as Robbert Flick, Eileen Cowin, Paul Groh, Charles la Belle, Andrew Z. Glickman and the team of Walter Martin and Paloma Munoz.

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