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The Nest in Napa gets back to basics with “Meat and Potato”

Dec 22, 2008 – A group of meat-centric artists and writers come together as part of a new culinary theme at the Nest. *Meat and Potato* curated by Ashley Teplin and Ann Trinca opens on **Saturday, January 24 from 4:00-6:00 pm** in conjunction with the official Napa release party for **Meatpaper, Issue #6**. Join us for a creative exploration of meat culture plus incredible French fries from the **Scratch N’ Sniff TV** guys, chaucuterie by the **Fatted Calf**, and surprises from the **Secret Eating Society** (shhhhh).

The Nest is delighted to host the Napa release of their favorite meat culture magazine, *Meatpaper*. Editors Sasha Wizansky and Amy Standen are on Issue #6 of their investigation of what they see as a “growing cultural trend of meat consciousness”. They observe that many of us are seeking a closer relationship with what we eat, and finding in that relationship a source of new insight and creative inspiration.



The exhibition, on view through March 15, will feature paintings and photographs by Ashley Teplin and Tom Patton, video by John Porter McMeans, and objects from Heritage Culinary Artifacts and Sweet Meats. Ashley Teplin stands astride two worlds, with a degree from the Culinary Institute of America (N.Y.) and a fine art degree from UCLA. Her artwork is a gut reaction to the textures and colors of the meat she has handled and prepared many times as a chef. She breaks down the visual elements into a palatable abstraction, pointing out the disengagement of the product from the source.

Artist Tom Patton heads the photography department at CSU Chico and works with BA, BFA and MFA students. His own work has been shown in over 250 exhibitions and 60 publications. His *Meat* pictures are ripe with contradiction; they are beautiful, yet grotesque. Their underlying quirkiness allows them to neither affirm nor condescend about the industries that created these meats. He states, “To me, these images are weird and witty, simultaneously reverent and irreverent and employ the fascination/repulsion that humans have with things that we put into our bodies.”





Lisa Minucci, owner of Heritage Culinary Artifacts (in the Oxbow Market) will help us install a tableau of kitchen cutlery and cooking paraphernalia. Our friends at Sweet Meats will be selling their Meat Medley plush toys and buttons and the Nest will be filled with vintage kitchenware and culinary goodies. *Where's the potato?* Listen and watch a choir of potatoes sing "The Potato Song" written by Cheryl Wheeler and animated by John Porter McMeans—a sensory experience you'll never forget!

The Nest is a vision shared by our community—a gathering place to experience art, showcase local talent, and inspire future generations. Our mission is to live creatively and give generously. A portion of profits are set aside to build the "Nest Egg" grants which will be awarded to local artists and arts organizations through the Arts Council of Napa Valley.

You can visit between 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Thursday—Saturday to feather your nest with artful treasures. The Nest is located at 1019 Atlas Peak Rd behind Jessel Gallery in Napa, CA. Email trinca.ann@gmail.com for more information, or call 707/255-7484.