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## **MOV-iN Along the Pecos**

*Intermedia Gallery Presents a Collaborative Sound and Photography Exhibition*

SANTA FE — Along its course, the Pecos River links a multitude of geographies, joining a diversity of uses and abuses, personal and cultural relationships to its waters and histories, myths and possible futures. The river traverses public and private lands, designated wilderness and urban space, agriculture and industry as it winds its way through eastern New Mexico and ultimately across west Texas to the Rio Grande/Rio Bravo.

**On February 1, CSF's MOV-iN Gallery will present *Along the Pecos*, a collaborative exhibition by Professor Steven Miller of the Contemporary Music Program and photographer CSF alumna Jennifer Schlesinger ('98). The opening reception will be held in the gallery from 4:45–7 p.m.**

Mapping aural, visual, social and physical geographies of the Pecos River through abstract representations of time and place, *Along the Pecos* offers an immersive multivalent experience of sonic and visual interpretations of the river and its surroundings. In bridging the aural and visual, documentation and abstract representation, site-specificity and portable installation, *Along the Pecos* is intended to refocus and recontextualize issues of ecology and relationship to place along the complex polymorphous river environment. Additionally, by presenting sonic and visual images through abstraction and simultaneous multiplicity, it engages in a critical dialogue with notions of representation.

Miller's sound recordings gather aural impressions of place along the Pecos River from near the headwaters in north central New Mexico down through the southeast corner of state. Arranged in a multilayered and multi-channel surround-sound composition, the recordings both expose and investigate the complex sonic environment to be found along the river and among its surroundings. Rejecting attempts to romanticize nature sounds as somehow separate and isolated from the human world, the recordings — and their resulting compositional matrix — instead embrace the varied textures, timbres and rhythms to be found along the river as it negotiates passage among the diverse cultures, geographies and settings through which it courses. Birds, planes, automobiles, wind, insects and the ever-present and ever-changing water channel itself provide only some of the more common among the seemingly endless array of sonic impressions.

Schlesinger's photographs situate these acoustic interpretations of the Pecos River through visual images of place. For this project, she has been photographing various organic environments found in the region of northern New Mexico. These photographs, a study

from her Earth Series, present natural forces such as water, wind and light through abstractions of familiar patterns found in nature landscapes. They make visible the forces in nature that are often difficult to discern yet are powerful connotations of the physics of the natural world. Presented in 16"x20" toned gelatin silver prints, these images result in complex abstract patterns that rely heavily on the subtlety of detail.

Another visual element in the project are the Earth Maps, which utilize the same investigation of natural patternings as the Earth Series, but here individual 16"x20" images are brought together to form a diptych or a "quad-tych," connecting and juxtaposing the constituent images. Maps have been used throughout history to describe land formations and provide directions for traversing or finding specific locations. Schlesinger's Earth Maps investigate the common utilitarian notion of maps as tools through an abstract idea: to "map" these patterns found in the Pecos River region that may become familiar once they are linked together. The result is a landscape map of a particular locale that forms by virtue of the elements in nature.

Dislocating these sonic and visual images — both temporally and locationally — from their points of origin, *Along the Pecos* reconfigures experience of place — both the here and there, the now and then — by isolating fragments of time and place and redeploing them in new spatial-temporal formations of sequence and simultaneity. Through this isolation, decontextualization and reconfiguration, sense of place opens up to a new perspective — a fiction which we hope will elicit curiosity, heighten sensory awareness, and provide a vantage point from which to re-examine attitudes and habits of being in relation to the multiple points of origins themselves — along the Pecos.

***Along the Pecos* will be on display in the MOV-iN Gallery through February 21. The MOV-iN Gallery is located in the Garson Communications Center at the College of Santa Fe; gallery hours are Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. For more information call (505) 473-6400.**

### **Artist Bios**

**Jennifer Schlesinger** is a Connecticut native who graduated from the College of Santa Fe in 1998 with a BA in photography and journalism. Jennifer has taught photography for various organizations and schools and has been an adjunct faculty member at CSF's Marion Center for Photographic Arts. She has investigated the world through photography for over 12 years and has exhibited at numerous colleges, art organizations and galleries including Southwest regional venues such as the Center for Contemporary Arts (Santa Fe), Eastern New Mexico University, and the Santa Fe Art Institute as well as nationally at such venues as Portland Northwest College of Art, the Chelsea Art Museum and most recently at the Bridge Art Fair in Chicago. Her work has been published in numerous catalogues and magazines and is represented in many private and public collections including the Huntington Botanical Art Collections in California and the Museum of Fine Arts in Santa Fe. In 2005 she received a grant from the New Mexico Arts Division, a Golden Light Award in Landscape Photography by the Maine Photographic Workshops, and she was a finalist in the Willard Van Dyke Grant given by the New Mexico Center for Photography. In 2007 she was nominated for the Santa Fe Prize for Photography by The Center and the Eliot Porter

Fellowship by the New Mexico Council on Photography. In 2007 she received the Center for Contemporary Arts Photography Auction Award.

Schlesinger has worked in non-profit arts administration for various organizations including the Center for Contemporary Arts (Santa Fe, 1999-2001); SITE Santa Fe (1999-2002), and the Santa Fe Art Institute (assistant director, 2002-2005). She served as co-curator with Woody Vasulka on the Vasulka Archive for purchase by the Daniel Langlois Foundation in 2000 while in residency at the Art & Science Laboratory. Her work is represented by Verve Fine Arts in Santa Fe, NM, and Soho Myriad in Atlanta, GA.

**Steven M. Miller** is a composer, performer, educator, audio engineer and producer. His primary musical interests are in electroacoustic and computer music, improvisation, world music and acoustic ecology/acoustic communication. His work has appeared on numerous CD and DVD releases. He is a professor of contemporary music and the former director of the Contemporary Music Program at the College of Santa Fe, where he teaches courses in electroacoustic music, world music, gamelan, acoustic ecology/acoustic communication, and composition, and produces the annual Santa Fe International Festival of Electroacoustic Music.

Miller has performed in a variety of solo and ensemble contexts throughout the US. Performances and broadcasts of his music have occurred in North and South America, Asia, Europe and Australia. He coordinates and co-hosts the weekly radio show "Other Voices, Other Sounds" on KUNM 89.9 FM in Albuquerque, NM. His book and CD reviews are published in the *Computer Music Journal* and elsewhere. He was the founding vice president of the American Society for Acoustic Ecology, and served on the board of the World Forum for Acoustic Ecology, for which he recently co-edited the 2007 edition of the annual journal *Soundscape*. During the 2004-2005 academic year, he was a visiting scholar at the Columbia University Computer Music Center; performer with Gamelan Son of Lion and Gamelan Kusuma Laras (in residence at the New York Indonesian Consulate); gave guest lectures on his music at a number of venues throughout the region; gave performances of his solo electroacoustic music; and worked on composition and writing projects.

As an undergraduate, Miller studied electronic music and composition with Ingram Marshall and audio recording and production with Peter Randlette at Evergreen State College in Olympia, WA. He completed an MFA in electronic music and recording media at the Center for Contemporary Music at Mills College, where he studied with David Rosenboom, Larry Polansky, Maggi Payne, Anthony Braxton and William Winant. In 1989-90 Miller was a Fulbright Scholar in composition, studying traditional and new music for gamelan at STSI-Surakarta (Sekolah Tinggi Seni Indonesia, the national performing arts college) and the Pura Mangkunegaran in Surakarta, Central Java Indonesia.