



For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Johnny Sampson
The Box
714-724-4633

**THE BOX CELEBRATES THE IDES OF MARCH WITH
*ET TU, BRUTE?: PASSION, POWER, AND BETRAYAL***

*Exhibit By Artists Jeff Claassen, Anthony Mangicapra, and Jason Ramos
Opens At The Box Gallery On March 15, 2008*

Costa Mesa, CA (February 18, 2008)—To celebrate the Ides of March, The Box contemporary art gallery is proud to present the works of artists Jeff Claassen, Anthony Mangicapra, and Jason Ramos. This collection of mixed media paintings will open at the Costa Mesa gallery on Saturday March 15, 2008, from 7:00 PM until 10:00 PM. The exhibition will run through the beginning of May.

“It is no coincidence that these three artists have chosen to show together for this exhibition,” says curator Johnny Sampson. “Their work exposes an intimate aspect of current affairs and the extraordinary--what better occasion to reveal them than upon the such a historically significant date? When confronted by a seer’s prophesy to beware the Ides of March, Caesar dismissed him claiming, ‘he is a dreamer’. That moment changed history. We are still influenced by that decision today. Utilizing many mediums, these three artists fuse delicate intimacy with the urban, revealing the sublime beneath contemporary life and current events, challenging us with new dreams and revelations to experience”.

San Luis Obispo artist, Jeff Claassen, manipulates stencils, graffiti techniques, and spray paint to create playful yet poignant images. Claassen seals his mixed-media work in high-gloss plastic resin, essentially “candy-coating” his urban influenced paintings.

Hailing from Los Angeles, Jason Ramos’ works emphasize narrative and intimacy. Much of the imagery is derived from the fetishized violence found in the cartoon shows and comic books of his youth. World affairs and personal narratives also contribute to the overall gestalt.

Many of sound sculptor and visual artist Anthony Mangicapra’s works are influenced by the occult and theosophical literature. Recently relocating from Southern Florida to Northern California, Mangicapra continues to release his music under the name Hoor-Paar-Kratt through self-owned Goat Eater Arts.

Background on The Box gallery

The Box gallery is a collaboration between Splitends owner and stylist Christopher Hall and curator Johnny Sampson. It is a multi-use space, combining a minimal boutique salon with a contemporary art gallery. Located in the heart of the Costa Mesa SoBeCa district at 765 Saint Clair Ste B, The Box gallery and Splitends offer an unconventional, progressive venue for art and style. For more information, log onto www.boxboxbox.com or call 949-645-1223.

###