

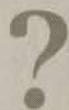
# HUNTINGTON BEACH INDEPENDENT

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FOR OCTOBER 5 - 11, 2006

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## Inside



### HAPPENINGS

#### Architectural art

Amir Zaki takes architecture  
to another level.  
See Page B1.

#### ALSO:

- Bird-watching at Shipley Nature Center. See Page A8.
- Smartboards go to head of the class. See Page A9.
- "Open Season" a year-round treat. See Page B5.

### CITYSCAPE

Every penny  
counts



Huntington Beach City Council candidates meet with non-profit and other public agencies at the Q&A forum at Murdy Community Center in Huntington Beach. CHRISTOPHER WAGNER / INDEPENDENT

# Candidate forums begin

City council hopefuls debate merits of proposed senior center at first of candidate forums

UPCOMING DEBATES

# Surf City Happenings

**72  
HOURS**

**FRIDAY Splurge.** If you need a night out and you love lobster, head over to Longboard Restaurant & Pub, 217 Main St., Huntington Beach. Its 15th annual Lobster Fest features two Maine lobsters, corn on the cob and new potatoes for \$22, and continues throughout the month of October. Call: (714) 960-1896.

**SATURDAY Ocean view.** Amigos de Bolsa Chica will hold its 26th Annual "Running is for the Birds" at Bolsa Chica State Beach. Event includes a 10K walk beginning at 8:30 a.m., a 5K run at 8:40 a.m., and a Family Fun Walk at 8:45 a.m. The race course is on a concrete path that runs along the sand. Registration is \$30; children 12 and under are \$15. Call: (714) 840-1575 or go to [www.amigosdebolsachica.org](http://www.amigosdebolsachica.org).

**SUNDAY Family fun.** St. Bonaventure Church in Huntington Beach celebrates fall "Under the Big Top" when the circus comes to town for its 41st Annual Fall Festival. Events include rides, musical performances, games, food and raffles. Proceeds benefit the St. Bonaventure school. Hours are noon to 8 p.m. The church is at 16400 Springdale St. For more information, call (714) 962-4768.

Independent

Thursday, October 5, 2006 B1

## WET AND WILD WITH ROCKIN' FIG Aussies tear it up in France

By the final day of the Quiksilver Pro France, a storm had rolled in, reeling off 3- to 6-foot surf under cloudy skies, drizzle and offshore winds.

Those conditions didn't slow down Aussie Joel Parkinson, who was due for a win following his tear-it-up performances lately. "Parko" blazed through his semi heat, with three-time world

champ Andy Irons scoring a 9.3 barrel to leave the former champ needing a combination score and a straight shot to the final.



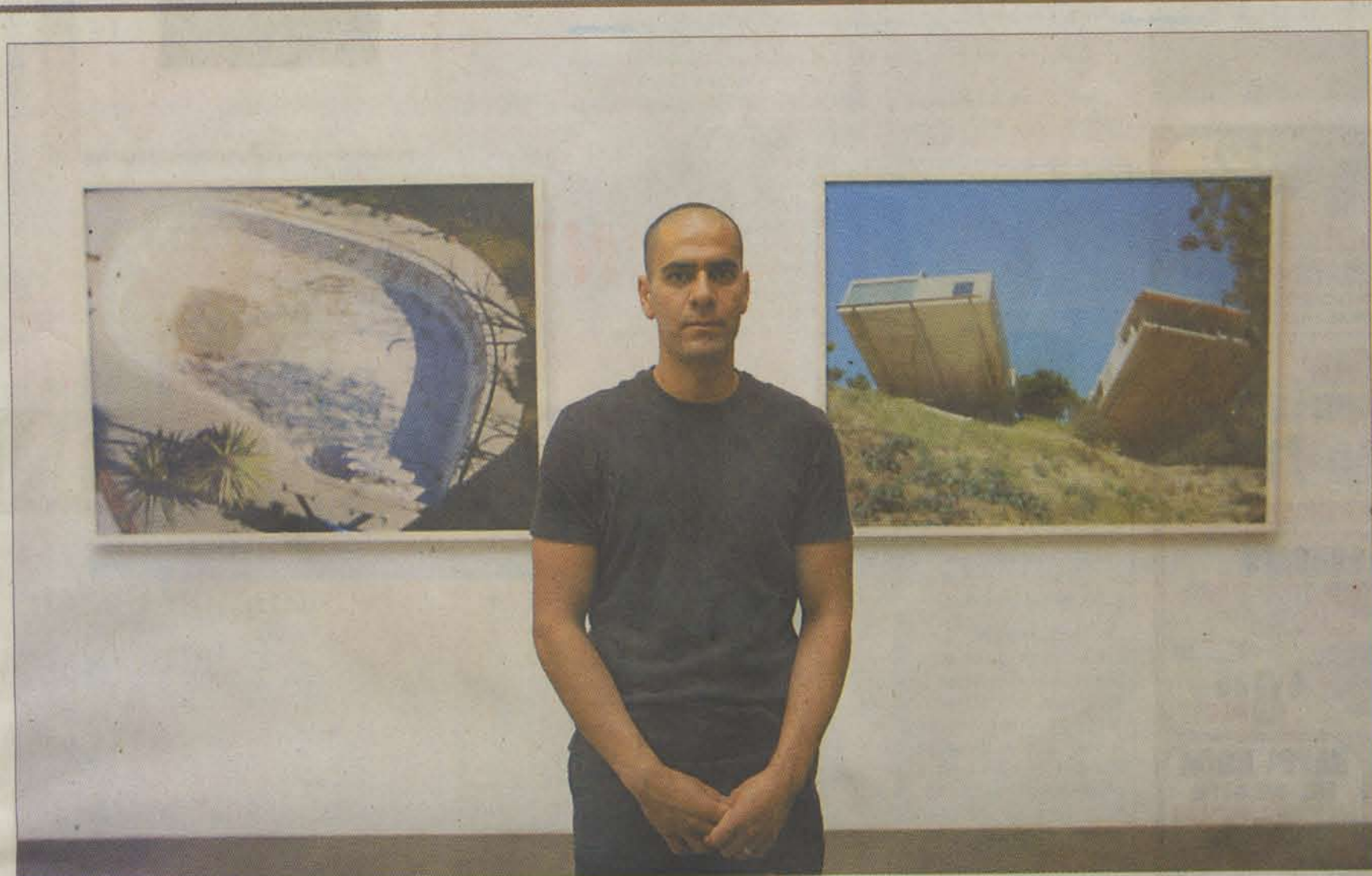
**RICK FIGNETTI**

Meanwhile fellow Aussie Mick Fanning took out

seven-time world champ Kelly Slater in the other semi with a blistering forehand combination of snaps and gouges on a right, scoring in the nine zone too. But, in the final, it was all Parkinson, as the two close friends surfed it out, with "Parko" clinching it 15.16 to 7.67 over the "White Lightning."

"Slates" gets another third, putting him in great shape for world title No. 8, as he's up by more than a thousand points with three events left: Mundaka in Spain; Brazil; and Pipeline in Hawaii. He's also missed an event, when he was injured and that helps him in the adjusted points, because they don't count all the contests. If Slater continues to make the quarters or better, the other contenders, Burrow and Irons, need to win the remaining events.

Mundaka has started, running Oct. 3-14. It's a hollow reeling sandbar left, off a point, by a boat harbor, with a castle in the background — a classic setting. The bay can handle 2- to 15-foot surf. Last year they ruined it by dredging and the event was canceled. But this year the sand is back and it's happening again. And last week the swell was going off. Previous winners include Australian Luke Egan, who won in 2004. Egan, a former world tour veteran, retired this season but received a wild-card slot this year. Slater won in 2003, Irons in 2002. It was sadly canceled in 2001 due to the possible terrorist activities.



## Collapse, rise

Huntington Beach artist Amir Zaki is building a reputation around Orange County.

By Kelly Strodt  
Independent

The City of Huntington Beach has a new creative mind to claim as its own, and he's already making his mark on the Orange County art scene.

Amir Zaki, one of 30 artists on the bill at the Orange County Museum of Art's 2006 California Biennial, always had an eye on architecture, although his interest in the subject has been birthed more from fantasy than documentary.

On Nov. 16, the UC Riverside professor will discuss the motive behind his work with guests at the museum. His exhibit, comprised of Los Angeles architecture, asks viewers to

embrace the fantasy made possible when you tweak reality.

During an interview, Zaki pulled off the wall one of his photographs measuring almost 4 feet by and 5 feet, flipped the work 180 degrees, and then placed it back on the supports.

This should be done regularly to give the work its intended effect, Zaki said.

The repositioned image, a overlaying of the two photographs on the wall to the immediate right and left, takes the collapse of a modern building and flips it on its head and then squishing the two together.

View the effect online at the artist's website, <http://amirzaki.com>.

The title "Despaloc" or collapsed spelled backward, gives light to his thematic intentions. The viewer gets a sense that something is just not quite right, Zaki said.

To get a better sense of this, check out the "Spring Through Winter" series, some of which is also on display for the biennial, particularly the stilted homes of Los Angeles.

In these images, the structures hang over a hilltop, the supports, present in reality, edited out on a computer in post production, by Zaki.

Done right, it can be better than reality, Zaki said.

When people see homes like this, the panoramic view would most likely be the focus, the 32-year-old photographer said. The impending fall of the home now takes the lead.

"The view is ideal," he said. "But what does it look like underneath?"

Also in the series, images of tiled-over fireplaces and unused

See COLLAPSE, Page B2

### IF YOU GO

- **WHAT:** 2006 California Biennial
- **WHO:** Amir Zaki
- **WHEN:** now through Dec. 31
- **WHERE:** Orange County Museum of Art, 850 San Clemente Drive, Newport Beach
- **COST:** \$10, \$8 for students, Thursdays are free
- **CALL:** (949) 759-1122

Fine Art Photographer Amir Zaki stands in front of two of his pieces on display in the Orange County Museum of Art 2006 California Biennial show. The pieces are titled 'Untitled (Winter Pool\_20-22), 2004,' left, and 'Untitled (OH\_04), 2004,' right.

MARK DUSTIN / INDEPENDENT



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## COLLAPSE

Continued from B1

swimming pools are intended to unsettle the viewer. Hopefully they won't just glance over the work, but will imagine what is the story behind it.

For Zaki, the narrative within ignited his interest in boarded up fireplaces.

Sometimes when people cremate loved ones they keep them, in an urn on the fireplace mantel, Zaki said.

The boarded up fireplaces, in form, resembled tombstones to the photographer.

What if they boarded up the ashes in the fireplace, he thought. It would be like the headstone, without the cemetery.

"People taxidermy their dogs and keep them," Zaki said. "It's not that far fetched."

He was so into the idea for awhile, that he purchased the web domain, [www.fireplaceburials.com](http://www.fireplaceburials.com). The website is no more.

A photograph may hang alone on a wall, but it is never alone in content.

Zaki's art always comes packaged as a series, using, on



Fine Art Photographer Amir Zaki rotates the center photograph of a three-piece display in the Orange County Museum of Art 2006 California Biennial show.

PHOTOS BY MARK DUSTIN / INDEPENDENT

average of 10-15 photographs, although the end come as much inspiration as does beginning the work.

"Sometimes it's brought on by deadlines, but for the most part it's pretty internal," he said. "I keep adding until I get burnt out and feel it's run its course."

Some images just naturally become the period at the end of the sentence, Zaki Zaki often frequents the surf shops here in Huntington. Often, he rides the waves across from the intersection of Newland and Pacific Coast Highway, or somewhere along the shores of Bolsa Chica State Beach.

"Part of this is exciting, moving down here," he said. "Why shouldn't I get to move down to the beach?"

You may be living in, walking along or attending school at his

next body of work, Zaki said.

The build of Moffet Elementary School recently caught his eye, as did the city's central library.

And there are 29 other exhibits

to encounter over the next two-and-a-half months at the museum in Newport Beach. Visit the website, [www.ocma.net](http://www.ocma.net) and get a look at all the activities planned with the artists.



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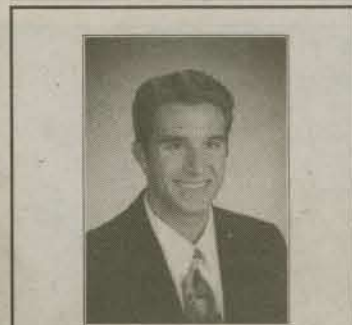
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