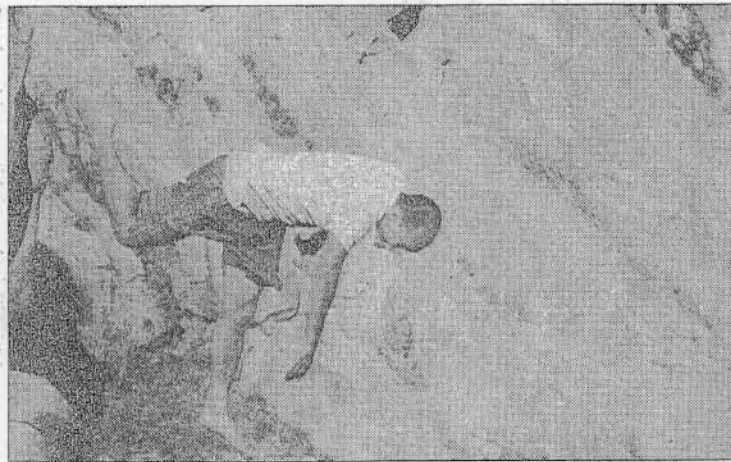




WHAT'S AHEAD IN ART & GALLERIES



UCR/CALIFORNIA MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHY

The video "Searching for the Impossible: The Flying Project," by Joel Tauber, is included in the "Still, Things Fall From the Sky" exhibit.

A BIG STEP

UCR/California Museum of Photography exhibit includes video, paintings, sculpture

It's not your father's photography museum. Things have been changing at the UCR/California Museum of Photography in the past year or so.

Where before the museum might have featured a little taste here and there of media other than emulsion-based images, it now seems to be breaking out of its former mold and drawing on a wide range of photographic ideas rather than just photography.

The newest example of that is "Still, Things Fall from the Sky," which opens Saturday at the Riverside museum. A reception is planned from 7 to 9 p.m.

This is the first exhibit mounted by the museum's new curator of exhibitions, Ciara Ennis. Her background is not in curating photography, but contemporary art. That helps to explain the broad range of work in the show, including videos, paintings, sculptural installations and, oh yes, photographs.

What ties the loosely connected exhibit together, Ennis says, is "and exploration of the fertile territory of myth and fable, the relationship between reality and imaginary ideas."

One of the show's initial pieces is a looped video, "Studio Visit, 2005," by Los Angeles artist Joe Sola. Inspired by his fantasies while

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Art Walk

sitting through endless meetings, Sola invited some colleagues to his studio to discuss some new work he was involved in. He videoed these meetings and his sudden, shocking reaction — and possible solution — to them. To say more than that would spoil the surprise.

A poster-size photo by UC Riverside photography professor Amir Zaki depicts an impossible balancing act by two cantilevered homes that seem ready to come crashing down in an instant.

In addition to these works, the show includes a standing replica of Unabomber Ted Kaczynski's Montana cabin, a "black hole" constructed of black cardboard and green tape, and a video of a man attempting to fly without any mechanical assistance.

Also opening at the museum is "Flying" by Sachigusa Yasuda in the upstairs Oculorium Gallery. The show features Yasuda's photo collages depicting dizzying vertical cityscapes.

The museum is at 3824 Main St., Riverside. Hours are noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Admission is \$1, students and seniors get in for free. Call (951) 784-3686.