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July 27, 2008

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**What:** *Nature Word~Verbe Nature* • photographic silver - sun prints by Susannah Hays  
**When:** Show runs August 27 – October 25. Gallery hours are Wed-Sat 1 – 6pm and by appt.  
First Friday & Artist Receptions: September 5 and October 3, 6 – 10pm  
**Where:** NoneSuch Space in Oakland, 2865 Broadway at 29th Street, Upper Floor  
**Contact:** Ann Skinner-Jones, 650.224.3108, [annskinnerjones@yahoo.com](mailto:annskinnerjones@yahoo.com)

***NATURE WORD ~ VERBE NATURE* silver-sun prints by Susannah Hays**

NoneSuch Space presents exquisite photographic silver-sun prints by Bay Area artist and educator, Susannah Hays. Her work has been exhibited and collected nationally by numerous private and public collections. An experimental photographer, Susannah makes pictures revealing the essential interconnectedness of systems in our universe.

Susannah moves quietly in the footsteps of Henry Fox Talbot and other early pioneers of photographic image making, looking for clues that connect a photographer with the essence of the medium and the motivation that lies deep within the impulse to create images. Sensitive to both the language of photography and visual signifiers within her immediate surroundings, her work exists in the midst of an imaginative exchange with our in/visible cosmos. She pursues repeating patterns, following echoes of the organic within the inorganic, while capturing light, shadow and form in empty glass bottles and jars. Attempting to reconcile celestial and terrestrial realms, Susannah's luminous plant forms are transcribed by sunlight in even the smallest leaf or cross section of a root.

The exhibition title, *Nature Word ~ Verbe Nature*, pays homage to little known French Hermetic philosopher and Egyptian scholar, R.A. Schwaller de Lubicz, whose interest in ancient and sacred traditions of humanity brought him to see the value of language not simply as communication, but as an interface between humankind and the divine. Susannah describes photography's ability to generate language through images as akin to the alchemical transformations iron salts undergo when exposed to sunlight. "Without use of lens or further manipulations, these mediated conditions render permanent shadowgraphs drawn by the sun." Iron salts are applied to tissue weight Japanese Torinoko Gampi translucent papers before tracing objects either directly to scale or by contact printing film-based enlargements. As our earth gradually cycles around the sun, the salts visibly transform the papers, marking time unfolding.

Hays earned her MFA in Photography from the San Francisco Art Institute, and her MA in Visual Studies from the University of California, Berkeley, College of Environmental Design. A founding member of the Entropy/Consciousness Institute in San Francisco, she teaches studio practice and interdisciplinary thought at the San Francisco Art Institute and California College of the Arts.