



Department of Visual Arts

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*Université des Acadiens*

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## SOUTH LOUISIANA SOUL

**Deciphering Personal Altars Through Pinhole Photography**  
a lecture presenting color photographs made with a pinhole camera

Presenter: Allison Petit ([www.silverfish.us](http://www.silverfish.us))

**Tuesday April 11, 3 to 4PM**

**Room 134, Fletcher Hall**

Photographer Allison Petit comes to the University of Louisiana at Lafayette to speak about her work entitled *South Louisiana Soul*. Petit has been invited by the Visual Arts Department to present her color photography of Louisiana interiors and personal altars shot with a pinhole camera. The lecture is scheduled for Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 3PM in room 134 of Fletcher Hall and is open to the general public.

Allison Petit is a native of Montréal, Canada. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in painting and photography from Mount Allison University in New Brunswick, Canada. She then relocated to the southern United States to study at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, where she received her Master of Fine Arts in 1993.

While residing for several years in South Louisiana, Petit became aware of the varied personal collections, or as she describes them “eclectic home altars,” of the community. The ULL lecture will feature current work in her ongoing project *SOUTH LOUISIANA SOUL: Deciphering Personal Altars Through Pinhole Photography*. The project, originally funded by a 2002 Canada Council grant, was initiated by Petit to apply her photographic vocabulary to the exploration of a specific place and culture. She describes the project’s focus as “photographically unearthing a sense of the South Louisiana Spirit. Object arrangements recorded with a pinhole camera serve as symbolic portraits of both individuals and their culture. The result is less a catalogue of objects than a collection of visual clues to the rich stories of this special part of the Deep South.”

Allison Petit’s images can be viewed at: [www.silverfish.us](http://www.silverfish.us).

## **Acknowledgements**

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[The Canada Council for the Arts / Le Conseil des Arts du Canada](http://www.canadacouncil.ca),  
[Louisiana State University's Photography Program](http://www.lsu.edu/arts/photography),  
and the many wonderful individuals who allowed Petit into their homes.

## **Directions & Parking**

The Visual Arts Department is located in Fletcher Hall at the corner of E Lewis St and Girard Park Circle on the ULL campus.

From I-10 in the Lafayette area:

- exit University and head toward Lafayette
- continue almost 1.5 miles and cross Johnston St
- continue 2 more blocks, right onto McKinley St
- at St. Mary Blvd, McKinley becomes Girard Park Circle
- landmarks: Girard Park on left, Fletcher Hall (bldg 37 on map) on right
- right onto E Lewis St
- right into parking lot beside Fletcher Hall (yellow on map)
- room 134 Fletcher looks like a separate building, like an annex, at back of main building (red on map)

## Campus Map

