

## Bay Area visual arts picks, Nov. 7-10

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**Bob Nugent: Dialogues With Nature:** Sonoma State University professor Bob Nugent has for many years made art that responds, sometimes directly, sometimes enigmatically, to his long involvement with the ecologically endangered Amazon River Basin. This show displays the range and creative sophistication of his efforts. Reception 5-8 p.m. Friday. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Through Nov. 22. Art Works Downtown, 1337 Fourth St., San Rafael. (415) 451-8119. [www.artworksdowntown.org](http://www.artworksdowntown.org).

**Sam and Max - Swift and Mirthful Justice: The Art of Steve Purcell:** Purcell, a Northern California native and veteran of Lucasfilm and Pixar animation, has conducted a sideline career in comics and other privately published projects, which get a first survey here. \$3-\$7. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. Through April 20. Cartoon Art Museum, 655 Mission St., S.F. (415) 227-8666. [www.cartoonart.org](http://www.cartoonart.org).

**Terry Berlier: Erased Loop Random Walk:** A Stanford art faculty member, Terry Berlier makes conceptual art of unusual intelligence, humor and sensitivity to the impact of materials. This venue promises to bring her work a wider, more appreciative audience. Opens Saturday; reception 6-8 p.m. Nov. 15. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, noon-5 p.m. Saturday. Through Feb. 15. San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, 560 S. First St., San Jose. (408) 283-8155. [www.sjica.org](http://www.sjica.org).

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