The Thacher Gallery at USF presents

Carpe Lumen:
Illuminated sculpture from faculty and staff at The Crucible

March 7 – April 24, 2005

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Slide Lecture with Ed Kirshner & Christian Schiess
Thursday, Mar. 10, 1:30 – 3 pm
Donohue Rare Book Room
3rd Floor, Gleeson Library

Artist Reception
Thursday, Mar. 10, 3 – 6 pm
Thacher Gallery

Curated by Christian Schiess, Chair of the Light Art Department at The Crucible, the artworks in “Carpe Lumen” will represent a full range of luminous elements, including neon (electric gas discharging tubes). Artists will include Don Carlson, Nick DiPhillipo, Ed Kirshner, Norman Moore, Rob Nehring, Michael Pargett, Ralph Reed, Christian Schiess, Greg Shapler, Michael Sturtz, Mary White, Stephen Widmark.

All of the artists in “Carpe Lumen” are staff or faculty at The Crucible, an Oakland-based non-profit educational collaboration of arts, industry and community. Founded in 1999 by a small group of artists, it is the Bay Area’s only nonprofit sculpture studio, educational foundry and metal fabrication shop offering classes in fine and industrial arts. Through training in the fine and industrial arts, The Crucible promotes creative expression, reuse of materials, and innovative design while serving as an accessible arts venue for the general public.

Artworks will include curator Christian Schiess’s “Bio Incognito,” a series of large sculptures made of metal, wood, paint, glass, and radiant light that explores the interface between technology and nature. Ed Kirshner’s pieces incorporate glass and plasma to continue his interest in new theories of self-organizing chaos. His glass and gas plasma sculptures have been exhibited in Asia and the US, including several shows at the Museum of Neon Art in LA where he is a Trustee. Don Carlson’s sculpture features welded metal and neon. Carlson became a metal sculptor in 1998 and has been teaching metal sculpture at The Crucible since 1999. He has pieces in private collections throughout the United States. Mary White is Head of the Glass Program in the School of Art and Design at San Jose State University. Her sculpture series continue her investigations of the glass house using recycled materials.