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California Central Coast Psychiatrist Skates into Art Photography

Andrew Abarbanel launches "Inspirations in Ice" to showcase haunting images of ice spikes and captivating frozen landscapes

SOQUEL, CA - October 1, 2008: Local psychiatrist Andrew Abarbanel today announced the launch of the site **Inspirations-in-Ice.com** and his official entry into to the world of art photography. His work features otherworldly images of ice spikes and fantastic frozen landscapes, created in his freezer, and composed and captured through his unique artistic vision.

Abarbanel has christened his genre *Hydrodynamic Expressionism* – his work evokes emotional responses in viewers who see a range of personal imagery in the reflections and refractions of the watery shapes. People lose themselves in the detail, the patterns of bubbles, and the mix of colors. "All the world's a Rorschach," attests Dr. Abarbanel. "People react to the photos at different levels. Some find them relaxing -- places to lose themselves. Others parse the photos to reveal how they see themselves, their thoughts, feelings, and attitudes."

Many of his fascinating photographs have already appeared at local exhibitions and will soon hang in local galleries. At the recent SCCMS physician's art exhibition at the Santa Cruz Art League, visitors viewed Abarbanel's works alongside a range of landscape paintings and nature photography. In that context, the photographs emphasize the natural processes that form the shapes and bubble patterns, making them familiar, formed by the same laws of nature as more recognizable objects.

Launch Reception – October 10, 2008

Abarbanel will officially launch his on-line presence and start offering his works for sale on Friday, October 10, 2008, from 6:00 to 8:30 PM at his offices in Soquel, at 2820 Daubenbiss Avenue. The reception will feature an exhibition of large format prints of his photography, accompanied by cocktails. For more information, email info@inspirations-in-ice.com and visit www.inspirations-in-ice.com

About Andrew Abarbanel

A former physicist turned psychiatrist and photographer, Andrew Abarbanel lives and practices near Santa Cruz, California. His early work in solid state physics led to a lifelong fascination with the structure and properties of water and the unendingly rich ways it freezes into icicles, snowflakes, glaciers, frost and so much else, including the array of items presented here. His work in psychiatry makes producing the photographs all the more intriguing: items and themes people

see in these photos are as rich and revealing as any clinical responses in the last 90 years of Rorschach inkblot testing.

Abarbanel's training in physics and medicine were at Stanford and Harvard. He has written numerous articles on the psychological aspects of art and literature, a book on the effects of psychiatric disorders on relations (and what to do about it), and a text (as co-editor) on the psychiatric applications of electroencephalography.

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