Jamestown Community College’s Weeks Gallery presents Jamie Borowicz’s "Mayan Power & Jungle Scenes" and Liz Lee’s "Faux Finish."

On Saturday, October 6, 2007 at 6:20 p.m., Borowicz will present a brief slide lecture in the Sarita Hopkins Weeks Reception Hall.

The reception for Borowicz and Lee begins at 7 p.m. in the newly renovated Robert Lee Scharmann lobby; cocktails and hors d’oeuvres will be served.

Mehlumusic, a multi-national band from Amherst, Massachusetts, will perform South and Central American music in the Scharmann Theatre at 8 p.m. Their performance includes influences from Peru, Columbia, Ecuador, Brazil, and Puerto Rico.

For tickets, call the Jamestown Campus’s FSA Box Office, 716-338-1187 and for details, visit www.sunyjcc.edu/gallery FSA members $6, area students & seniors $8, general admission $10.

This program is generously sponsored by Jamestown Community College, the Faculty Student Association, the JCC Foundation, the Arthur R. Gren Company, and the Southern Tier Brewery Company.

Borowicz reveals the Mayan ruins at Tikal and the beauty and mystic of the Peten jungle in northern Guatemala. These sites provide an endless stream of visual ideas for his paintings and drawings. His large multi-faceted installations simulate a jungle experience; revealing monumental forms, contrasting light, rich tropical colors, long lines of vegetation, and rich variations of texture. Borowicz recalls the smells of wet soil and rotting vegetation, the incessant grinding of insects, the flash of an exotic bird’s plumage flashing by, the roar of howler monkeys all around, and lightening crashing through the canopy. “This is the backdrop for the ruins of Tikal and the magnificent Mayan civilization...with the massive temples shrouded by the low level trees and the canopy,” explains Borowicz. “My large murals evolved over the years...recreating the feeling of being enclosed...and reflecting the complexity of jungle spaces and forms.”

Borowicz received his Ph.D. and M.A. in anthropology from the State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY, and received his B.A. in art from Mercyhurst College, Erie, PA. His dissertation was titled “Images of Power and the Power of Images: Iconography of Stelae as an Indicator of Sociopolitical Events in the Early Classic Maya Lowlands.” He completed post-graduate work in Florence, Italy, studying humanism in the visual arts and literature, and he received a Freeman Foundation grant to study Chinese art and culture. He has numerous exhibitions and publications, and has completed several archeological field experiences to Guatemala; including a trip this summer. He teaches at Mercyhurst College and Mercyhurst Preparatory School in Erie, PA.

Lee questions how society subjectively interprets words and images, and how mass media and social stereotyping taint perceptions of the truth. Is there a single image or written definition that can objectively represent a man or women, liberal or a conservative, Christian or Muslim? Can television’s erroneous images and sound-bites represent truth? Lee deconstructs artificial and ambiguous camera truths. “As a photographer, I am interested in the impact of media, and how the truth associated with the photograph actually destroys it. My images call attention to the presence of the artist and the reproduction machine, in hopes of shifting attention from the theme of reality to its transformation in the camera - from the taking to the making of an image,” says Lee. “In staging scenes that show a picture within a picture, my work comments on the relationship between the image and reality - a ‘faux’ documentation to dramatize the print’s dual identity - document and artistic creation.”

Lee received her B.A. from the University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, and an M.F.A. from the Savannah School of Art and Design, Savannah, GA. She is currently an associate professor and department chair of visual arts and new media at the State University of New York at Fredonia. Lee has exhibited at the Stephen Gang Gallery, New York, NY; the Center for Contemporary Art Gallery, Sacramento, CA; Miami University Art Museum, Oxford, OH; Roger Gallery, College of the Ozarks, Point Lookout, MO; and the University of Houston-Downtown, Houston, TX. Her international exhibitions include the United Kingdom, Argentina, Malaysia, Russia, and Denmark. She has received numerous grant, awards, and professional honors.
Liz Lee’s Faux Finish

Jamie Borowicz’s
Mayan Power & Jungle Scenes

Saturday, October 6, 2007 at the Weeks Gallery