

**For immediate release:**

## City of Awesome

**Mission artist Todd Berman seeks to build community with crowdsourced painting project at Mission Pie art show**

**City of Awesome :: An exhibit of urban landscapes and crowdsourced community paintings by Todd Berman**

Reception: Thursday, December 15, 6-8pm with artist talk at 7pm

Mission Pie anniversary celebration: January 3, 2012

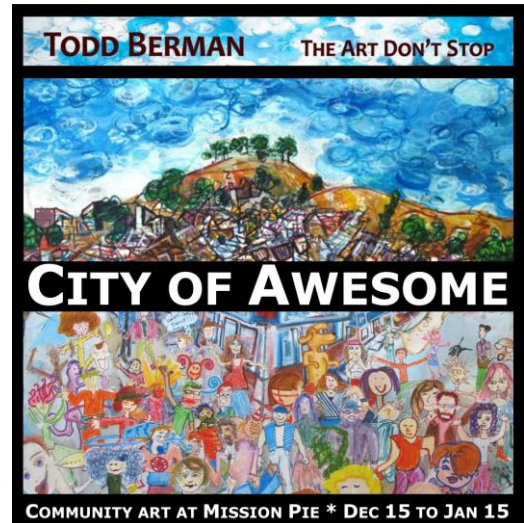
Exhibit runs December 15, 2011 - January 15, 2012

Mon – Fri 7a-10p, Sat 8a-10p, Sun 9a-10p

2901 Mission St., San Francisco, CA

**San Francisco, Nov. 2011** - Mission artist Todd Berman has a simple art project that gets neighbors to think about how they contribute to their community. Visitors to the “City of Awesome” exhibit, which will be on display at Mission Pie from December 15, 2011 to January 15, 2012, will have the opportunity to participate. The exhibit itself will feature several other crowdsourced community paintings along with Berman’s own interpretations of the San Francisco landscape.

Berman will be on hand to discuss the art at the opening reception December 15, 6-8pm and at Mission Pie’s January 3 anniversary party.



**The awesomeness project:** The artist promotes creativity by asking people of all ages to create small, personalized drawings which he collages into larger collaborative art works. For his next set of paintings, he is asking people to say how they “add to the awesomeness of San Francisco” and to draw a picture of themselves in action. Berman will cut these drawings out and collage them into a painting of San Francisco. He understands that many people might lack confidence in their drawing abilities. “I assure people that it’s their ideas that count,” he says, “I’ll make sure it all looks good on the canvas.”

**About the exhibit:** Visitors to Mission Pie can have warm organic sweet and savory pie while enjoying a variety of views of San Francisco as interpreted by Todd Berman in scenes that capture a chaotic sense of community in bright, expressionistic drawing, painting and collage. Ever since moving here from New York over a decade ago, Berman has been exploring the city’s culture, streets and public schools (as a substitute teacher) with sketchbook in hand.

**The venue:** Mission Pie is a corner café, bakery, and neighborhood gathering place in the Mission that brings the flavors of local farms into the city and tells their stories. It is also a sustainable business that makes decisions according to environmental, social and economic values. And they love the Mission District for its diversity, its accessible and vibrant street life, and its neighborhood pride. MissionPie.com - 2901 Mission St., SF, CA

Contact **Todd Berman** at [Todd@TheArtDontStop.com](mailto:Todd@TheArtDontStop.com) or **415 595-0337**

Event URL: <http://www.TheArtDontStop.com/happenings>

High quality images readily available.

###