Proposed art, actual talk

Flash back to 1987 and the New York-based Vito Acconci is a name often in the news. The reason: His proposed art for Spanish Landing, "Sea of Green," is mired in controversy and soon to be rejected by the Port of San Diego. That same year, the then La Jolla Museum of Contemporary Art organized a large show of his work.

Now, Acconci is back in town. He still hasn't managed to successfully install a public work in the area. For inSITE97, he's planned an extension of a section of the fence between San Diego and Tijuana that sits in the ocean. But a delay in permits has thus far prevented it from being part of the exhibition that opened on Sept. 26 and continues through Nov. 30.

Still, you can hear the influential artist talk. Acconci is going to be at UCSD's Copley International Conference Center, Institute of the Americas, at 7:30 p.m. Thursday. His topic for that evening: "Homes Away From Home (A Reading With Pictures)."

On Nov. 21 he's on a panel titled "Private Eye/Public Sphere," from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the same

location. Other participants are:
Peter Smith, professor of political
science and director of Latin American Studies, UCSD; Louis Hock,
chair of the Department of Visual
Studies, UCSD; George Lewis, professor of music, UCSD; and Beatriz
Sarlo, professor of Latin American
literature and culture, Universidad
de Buenos Aires.

All talks and the panel are free. Call (619) 544-1482 or (619) 534-2117 for more information.

Robert Pincus