Earthquake Weather Series, 2014

Drawings and web project by Jenifer Wofford

"'Earthquake Weather' is one of those great, nonsensical phrases that people in the Bay Area have used for years. The belief that weather might foreshadow seismic activity is a notion that has been around for centuries, but the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake is largely what popularized its use in Northern California.

The Loma Prieta Quake occurred on October 17, 1989 at 5:04 pm. While California autumns are typically warm and dry, many people remember that particular afternoon as having an extra level of hot, spooky, stillness – perhaps like the quiet before a duel in some old western.

Since the Loma Prieta quake, the Bay Area has changed considerably. It's always been a place of transition and flux: people come and go, the earth shifts beneath us. Still, for those of us who were actually here in 1989 and who still vividly remember this event, this anniversary seemed like a good time to collect some of these memories. *Earthquake Weather* is a collection of people's personal stories of that day, with occasional illustrations by yours truly." – *Jenifer Wofford*

Jenifer K. Wofford is a San Francisco artist and educator whose work investigates hybridity, history, calamity and global culture, often with a humorous bent. She is also 1/3 of the Filipina-American artist trio M.O.B. Born in San Francisco and raised in Hong Kong, Dubai, Malaysia and the Bay Area, Wofford has also lived in Oakland and Prague. Wofford is a recent recipient of the Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters and Sculptors Grant. Her other awards include the Eureka Fellowship, the Murphy Fellowship, and grants from the San Francisco Arts Commission, the Art Matters Foundation, and the Center for Cultural Innovation. She has also been artist-in-residence at The Living Room (Philippines), Liguria Study Center (Italy), and KinoKino (Norway). Wofford teaches in the Fine Arts and Philippine Studies programs of the University of San Francisco. She holds degrees from the San Francisco Art Institute (BFA) and UC Berkeley (MFA).