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CENTRAL AND EAST COUNTY

CONTRA COSTA TIMES

- Bay Area theaters offer private showings for a few hundred dollars, but you'll have to schedule around those in the film industry

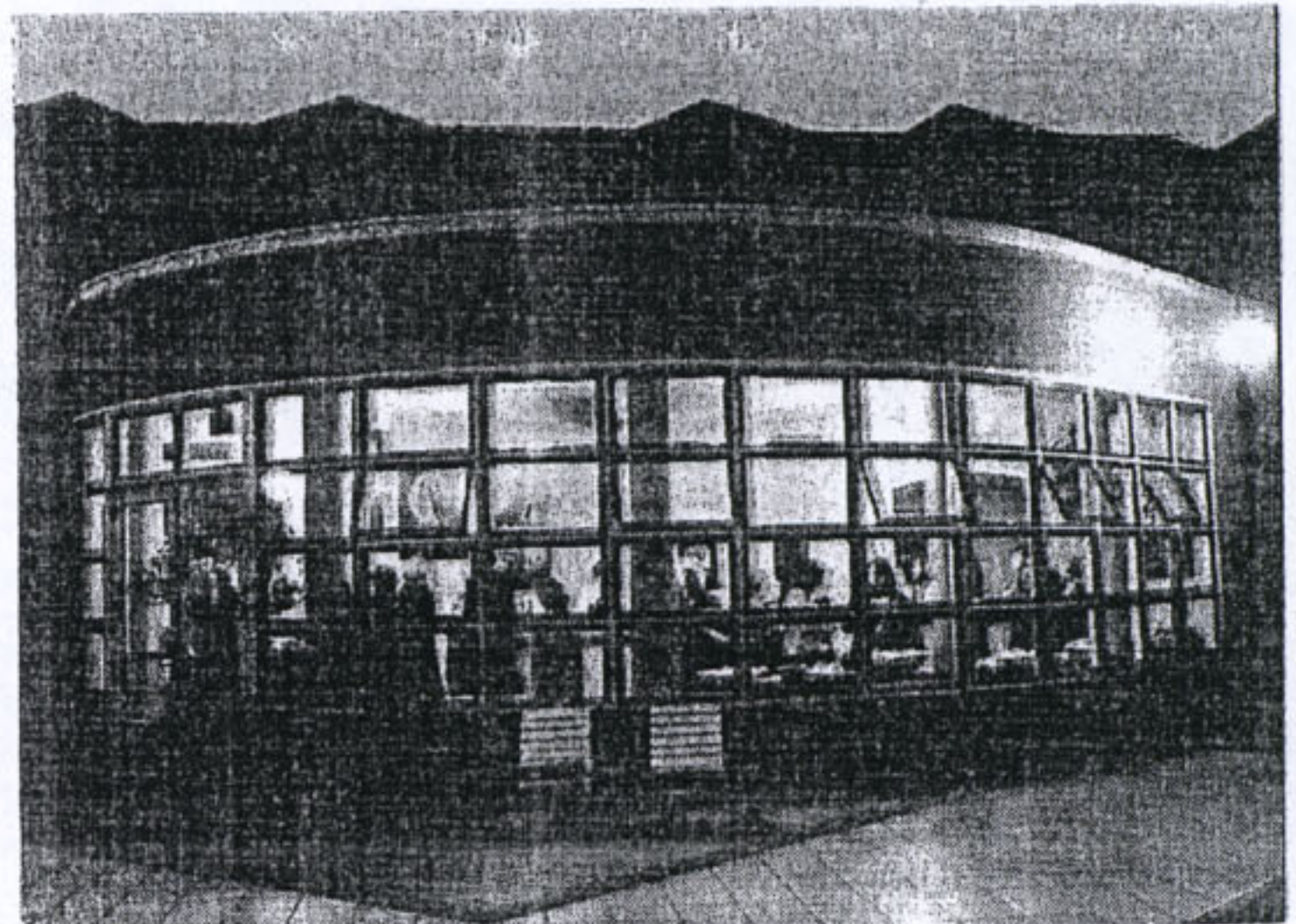
By Mary Pols

TIMES STAFF WRITER

The secret world of screening rooms

Delancey Street Screening Room

- **Address:** 600 Embarcadero, San Francisco
- **Phone:** 415-512-5153
- **Contact:** Sandy Lujan
- **Website:** None
- **Seats:** 150
- **Cost:** \$125 per hour on weekdays, \$150 per hour on weekends, with a two-hour minimum
- **Popcorn allowed?** Yes, Delancey Street has on-site catering. But food and drink not allowed in screening room itself, only the reception area.
- **Bells and whistles:** 35 and 16 mm projection, also Video and DVD capabilities. Dolby and THX sound.
- **Parking:** Valet parking available on request, and fairly easy street parking after hours, except during baseball season. There's also a nearby pay lot. The N Judah dumps you right at the door.
- **Posh meter:** Elegant but not fussy, sort of the Phil Kaufman of screening rooms. There's a pretty courtyard with a fountain, a small but pleasant reception area (with built-in bar), and good bathrooms in an adjacent building. The theater itself is comfortable and attractive, with good seating.



VOLUTEERS for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation gather March 17th at the Delancey Street screening room. The room uses all profits to fund its foundation for rehabilitating convicts.

Bay Area screening rooms such as the Delancey Street facility thrive on a varied clientele. The Director's Guild of America books a monthly film for its members there; corporate clients frequently use it for fund-raisers; and if a hotshot such as, say "Lord of the Rings" director Peter Jackson is in town, a studio is likely to book the place for a reception and screening. Delancey, which uses all profits to fund its foundation for rehabilitating convicts, is also likely to pick up bookings from local independent filmmakers who want to screen their film-in-progress.