



MEDIA ALERT
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August 9, 2017

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City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs
presents
COLA 20
Celebrating the 20th Anniversary
of the
City of Los Angeles (COLA) Individual Artist Fellowships

Event Date/Time: Saturday, August 19, 2017
7:30 p.m. Reception
7:45 p.m. Photo with the Artists
8:00 p.m. Daedelus Grooves for ***COLA 20*** Dance Party

Location: Grand Performances
350 South Grand Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Los Angeles – The **City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)** announced today that it will release ***COLA 20***, a hardbound art book that tells the story of the LA art scene, the history and impact of DCA, and the 20-year history of the ***City of Los Angeles (COLA) Individual Artist Fellowship Program*** on August 19, 2017.

DCA’s General Manager Danielle Brazell said, “Through its thought-provoking content, ***COLA 20*** illustrates the continued vitality of DCA’s COLA Individual Artist Fellowships to highlight master artistry and foster the bold creative spirit of Los Angeles, a city where complexity and diversity intertwine.”

With samples of the artists’ work and critical essays about the initiative’s elements, this special commemorative book memorializes the extraordinary assembly of 271 master artists or creative artist teams awarded COLA Fellowships by DCA over the last 20 years.

The City of Los Angeles is one of the few remaining cities in the nation that provides grants to individual artists. The COLA grant recipients are offered



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support each year by DCA to create new work that is showcased in a non-thematic group presentation series. This annual program includes an exhibition and performances that greatly benefit general audiences and honor a selection of established and creative artists who live and/or work in Los Angeles.

The **COLA 20** publication is an engaging collection of works by some of the most important contemporary artists in Los Angeles and includes tributes honoring the COLA Fellows who have passed away with poetry written by past COLA literary fellows. The book also includes excerpted selections from 10 DCA-sponsored salon conversations with COLA Fellows that connected respected members of the region's literary, performing, and visual-design communities.

Letters from **Mayor Eric Garcetti, City Council President Herb J. Wesson, Jr., Council Member Mitch O'Farrell, and DCA General Manager Danielle Brazell** comprise the preface to the publication.

The book was conceived by **DCA Grants Administration Division Director, Joe Smoke**, and edited by **Will Caperton y Montoya, DCA's Director of Marketing and Development**. It was designed by **Michael Worthington** of Counterspace, Los Angeles, a previous COLA Design Fellow. Essay contributors included Joe Smoke, who outlined the history and significance of the COLA program; Will Caperton y Montoya, who described the marketing of the artists, exhibitions, and performances as DCA's creative director and publications producer over the last 15 years; additional members of DCA's senior team and staff; and past COLA exhibition curators who were also the directors of the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery.

COLA 20 will be released at a private reception on August 19, 2017 hosted by DCA at Grand Performances at 7:30 p.m. in honor of the 271 past COLA artists or artist teams, followed by a special music performance with dancing open to the public at 8:00 p.m. with DJ Daedelus and friends.

Please visit:

<http://www.grandperformances.org/cola20>

for more information.

About the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)

As a leading, progressive arts and cultural agency, DCA empowers Los Angeles' vibrant communities by supporting and providing access to quality visual, literary, musical, performing, and educational arts programming; managing vital



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cultural centers; preserving historic sites; creating public art; and funding services provided by arts organizations and individual artists.

Formed in 1925, DCA promotes arts and culture as a way to ignite a powerful dialogue, engage LA's residents and visitors, and ensure LA's varied cultures are recognized, acknowledged, and experienced. DCA's mission is to strengthen the quality of life in Los Angeles by stimulating and supporting arts and cultural activities, ensuring public access to the arts for residents and visitors alike.

DCA advances the social and economic impact of arts and culture through grant-making, public art, community arts, and strategic marketing and development. DCA creates and supports arts programming, maximizing relationships with other city agencies, artists, and arts and cultural nonprofit organizations to provide excellent service in neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles.

For more information, please visit culturela.org or follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/culturela; Instagram [@culture_la](https://instagram.com/culture_la); and Twitter [@culture_la](https://twitter.com/culture_la).