



MEDIA ALERT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS'
LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL ART GALLERY
presents
2015 LOS ANGELES JURIED EXHIBITION

Biennial Show Captures LA's Creative Spirit

On view from July 26 through September 20

The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs' Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery (LAMAG) is pleased to present the 2015 Los Angeles Juried Exhibition, which will take place at the famed Barnsdall Park (4800 Hollywood Boulevard). On view from July 26 through September 20, the pioneering biennial exhibition provides emerging artists from across Southern California with a competitive opportunity to exhibit their work.

Awarded biannually by DCA, the displayed work is chosen by a panel of experts. This year's jurors were art critic and curator Peter Frank, art professor and internationally-renowned artist, Fatemeh Burnes, and Tomas Benitez, former executive director of Self-Help Graphics - the leading visual arts center serving the Chicano community in Los Angeles. LAMAG received over 380 entries this year with over 850 works of art to be considered for the exhibition. The presentation features the selected works of over 80 talented Southern California-based artists across mediums including: video art, sculpture, photography, printmaking, painting, and digital arts, as well as four installations including a room-filled library by Chrystal McConnell that acts as an interactive self-portrait installation.

In honor of the exhibition's summer debut, artists and the general public are invited to an opening reception on July 26 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. where awards will be announced for "Best of Show," Second Place, Third Place, as well as honorable mentions.

Celebrating the next generation of creative visionaries and nurturing the symbiotic relationship between Los Angeles, its artists, its history, and its identity as an international arts capital, the much-anticipated exhibition at the country's last remaining municipal art gallery explores our City's truly dynamic and diverse arts scene. For more information, please visit lamag.org.



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ARTISTS:

Selected artists include: *Lillian Abel, Susan Amorde, A.S. Ashley, Anne Blecksmith, Ray Bravo, Elizabeth Chandler, Mark Crase, Andrew K. Currey, Laura Darlington, Kristin du Charme, Shannon Durbin, Paul Emberger, Michael Floeck, Kathi Flood, David Fobes, Sarajo Frieden, Curtis Green, Carole Goldman, Matthew Miles Grayson, Julie Green, Michael Haasis, Emily Halpern, Mark Hayward, Chris Hopkins, Walter Impert, Aazam Irilian, Louis Jacinto, Robert Klewitz, Russell Knight, Sheku Kowai, Joslyn Lawrence, Brian Kuhlman, Dave Lefner, Edward Lightner, Bruce Litz, Patricia Liverman, Erika Lizée, Ralph Loynachan, Dion Macellari, Louisa Miller, Jason Manley, Chris Mathis, Chrystal McConnell, Mike McLain, Zoran Milosavljevic, Stephen Morrison, Djibril N'Doye, Jim Newberry, Brooke Nasser, Jon Ng, Michael Ochintero, Monica Orozco, Thibault Pelletier, Susan Price, Antonio Pelayo, Melissa Reischman, Lynda A.N. Reyes, Todd B. Richmond, Regine Rode, Karrie Ross, Carol Roullard, Kerri Sabine-Wolf, Nairi Safaryan, Larisa Safaryan, Ilya Schar, Dorothy Shepherd, Mahara Sinclair, Olga Seem, Lidia Shaddow, Aren Skalman, Baby Smith, Cheryl Smith, Kymm Swank, Stephanie Sydney, Lisa Talbot, Roger Thomas, Tiensirin Tienngern, Sue Tuemmler, Richard Turner, Emmalyn Tringali, Frank Ventrola, Art Venti, Dana L. Walker, Cecily Willis, Wendy Widell Wolff, Tomi Yang, and Peggy S. Zask.*

JUROR BIOS:

Peter Frank is Senior Curator at the Riverside Art Museum and an art critic for *The Huffington Post*. He has also written reviews for *LA Weekly* and served as editor of *THE magazine Los Angeles* and *Visions Art Quarterly*. He has contributed articles to numerous publications and has written many monographs and catalogs for one person and group exhibitions, organizing survey shows throughout the world, from the Museo Reina Sofia in Madrid to New York's Guggenheim Museum.

Born in Tehran, **Fatemeh Burnes** is classically trained in Persian art and verse. She received her BFA and MFA in art and art history, and is now a full-time professor of drawing and design as well as a gallery director and curator at Mt. San Antonio College. An accomplished artist, she has exhibited both nationally and internationally and her exhibitions have been reviewed in publications such as *art ltd*, *ArtScene*, and *The Huffington Post*.

Tomas Benitez is the former executive director of Self-Help Graphics, the leading visual arts center serving the Chicano community in Los Angeles. Founded in 1973 and located in the heart of East L.A., Self-Help Graphics provides artists the opportunity to develop professional experience and serves as a vibrant community center. A working artist himself with a background in theater and writing, Mr. Benitez is a strong voice for Chicano arts in Los Angeles and beyond.



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About the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs

The **Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)** generates and supports high quality arts and cultural experiences for Los Angeles' 4 million residents and 40 million annual visitors. DCA advances the social and economic impact of the arts and ensures access to diverse and enriching cultural activities through: grantmaking, marketing, development, public art, community arts programming, arts education, and building partnerships with artists and arts and cultural organizations in neighborhoods throughout the City of Los Angeles.

DCA's operating budget and managed portfolio totaled \$56 million in fiscal year 2013/14. It consisted of: \$13.4 million in City related and indirect cost allocations; \$10.5 million in Transient Occupancy Tax funds; \$9 million in one-time City funding; \$9 million in funds from the Public Works Improvements Arts Program (PWIAP); \$7.5 million from the Private Arts Development Fee Program (ADF); and \$6.3 million in private and public funds raised from foundation, corporate, government, and individual donors.

DCA significantly supports artists and cultural projects through its Public Art Division by administering a portfolio that totaled \$16.5 million in PWIAP and ADF funds in FY13/14. Of this amount, typically 15% to 20%, or between \$2.5 and \$3.3 million, was attributable to artists' fees.

DCA's Marketing and Development Division has raised \$34 million over the last 12 fiscal years to re-grant to LA-based artists and arts and cultural organizations, and to support DCA's special programming and facilities. DCA also grants approximately \$2.3 million annually to 268 artists and nonprofit arts and cultural organizations through its long-established Grants Administration Division. Additional special project support of more than \$1.5 million is also awarded annually for a total of approximately \$3.8 million invested each year in LA's creative community.

DCA provides arts and cultural programming through its Community Arts Division, managing numerous neighborhood arts and cultural centers, theaters, historic sites, and educational initiatives. DCA's Marketing and Development Division also markets the City's arts and cultural events through development and collaboration with strategic partners, design and production of creative catalogs, publications, and promotional materials, and management of the culturela.org website visited by over 3 million people annually.