

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS'**  
**LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL ART GALLERY**  
**PRESENTS**  
**FIBERLICIOUS**

**16 Artists Challenge the Definition of Fiber Art**

On view from October 25, 2015 through January 3, 2016

The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs' (DCA) Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery (LAMAG) is pleased to present the exhibition, *Fiberlicious*, which will take place at the famed Barnsdall Park (4800 Hollywood Boulevard). On view from October 25, 2015 through January 3, 2016, the pioneering presentation examines the work of sixteen contemporary artists who expand the possibilities of traditional fiber art, while challenging its definition. **Barnsdall Art Park Foundation** kicks off *Fiberlicious* with an opening reception on Sunday, October 25, from 6-10 p.m. and invites the public to participate by coming dressed in their best "fiberlicious" wearable art.

Noting the increasing popularity of traditional crafts in contemporary art, LAMAG's art curator Scott Canty engaged artist and colleague, Carol Shaw-Sutton as his co-curator to develop the truly distinctive *Fiberlicious* exhibition. As a sculptor, who has been exhibiting her work globally since the 1970s, Sutton creates installations that specialize in fiber and textile. Utilizing various channels including social media, the curators selected talented mixed media artists who are transforming old art forms into modern works.

*FIBERLICIOUS* brings together a wide variety of works that focus on social, political, spiritual, and personal experiences. The selected artists use materials or techniques drawn from fiber-art practices and combine various mediums to produce large installations, video, participatory projects, and interactive and performative works. Their work explores a range of themes from the human condition to the celebration of culture. Traditionally, fiber art has been employed for domestic uses including rugs, quilts and other home crafts. The term *Fiber Art* came into use after World War II to describe the work of the craftsmen and their contributions to the art world. Today, artists are pushing the boundaries of artistic expression by adapting the crafts and experimenting with materials and tools to deliver contemporary interpretations.

*Fiberlicious* featured artists include: **Tanya Aguiñiga, Diedrick Brackens, Enrique Castrejon, Liz Collins, Dawn Ertl, Krista Feld, Carole Frances Lung "Frau Fiber," Tina Linville, J. Christopher Natrop, Wendy Osher, Chili Philly, Jennifer Reifsnieder, Nike Schröder, Lorenzo Hurtado Segovia, Ruth Katzenstein Souza and Ann Weber.**

LAMAG has a long history of mining for artists that explore fresh ideas and concepts in the crafts. The gallery's keen interest in this arena was first showcased in 1986, with their trailblazing exhibition "The Art Quilt." Since then, LAMAG has organized and participated in many shows, which investigate traditional and non-traditional presentations of contemporary artistic creations.

#### **Artists Statements**

**Tanya Aguiñiga** is a Los Angeles based furniture designer/maker raised in Tijuana, Mexico. Tanya's work is influenced by border experiences: the interconnectedness of societies, the beauty in struggle; and the celebration of culture. She uses furniture as a way to translate emotions into three-dimensional objects and tell stories through color and touch.

**Diedrick Brackens** earned his Masters of Fine Arts from California College of the Arts and his BFA at the University of North Texas. Brackens is a weaver and his textiles combine and remix histories of the craft as well as meditating on the trauma of black and queer bodies. His work has been featured internationally and recently some his work was acquired by the Oakland Museum of California.

**Enrique Castrejon** creates measured drawings, paintings, and sound pieces. These works investigate and question what he sees in Pop Culture and feature subjects including: architecture, war, senseless acts of violence, disease, fragmented bodies, and death. He creates by linearly cutting, dissecting, and reconstructing images into puzzle-like fragmented mosaics, all the while maintaining the subject within the work.

**Liz Collins** is a New York City-based artist and designer known for her knit textiles and fashions as well as her performance project *KNITTING NATION*. She has exhibited her yarn paintings in site-specific tableaux that includes specially arranged carpets, curtains, furniture, and lighting.

**Dawn Ertl** reinterprets the visual and auditory sounds of her environment, beginning her investigation by exploring and making connections with human relationships around her. She then reformats these connections into a coding system, which help create these fiber-based installations.

**Krista Feld** is a Long Beach-based artist, whose work investigates the nuances of human existence. This exploration has triggered a body of work which pulls from her personal history. She developed a cathartic and idiosyncratic ritual, focusing her energy and attention into transforming old family quilts, and, through the process, tapped into her subconscious. She created a series of public performances through her personal rituals.

**Carole Frances Lung, AKA Frau Fiber** has created an installation titled, “The Peoples Cloth Trade Show: Made in Los Angeles” an immersive environment for visitors to learn about textile and the apparel manufacturing in LA. Playing off the concept of a trade show, the installation consists of a *Mapping Manufacturing Room* and a *Leisure Time for Personal Production Room*, and includes a four-hour video presentation of *Frau Fiber vs. the Industrial Sock Knitting*.

**Tina Linville** continues to strive in creating objects that blur the distinction between abstraction and representational objects. She uses this creative process to discover the indescribable nature and beauty of creation and adopts her basic human compulsions for collecting, arranging, and wrapping to transform these objects.

**J. Christopher Natrop** centers on the art of cutting paper and creating unique installations of nature-based imagery. Done free hand with a utility knife, these cuttings follow a similar technique to drawing. His works have evolved into a stream-of-consciousness and a meditation of repetition with works that create a unique installation of silhouetted shapes.

**Wendy Osher** is primarily inspired by incongruities between perception, experience, and the narratives that surround us and create works that bring awareness to her social and cultural environment. Her works incorporate installations, interactive pieces, video, drawing, and embroidery.

**Chili Philly** is the artistic name for Phil Ferguson, a Melbourne-based artist, who creates new types of headwear influenced by the TV show, *RuPaul’s Drag Race*. Ferguson’s food-centric, larger-than-life, hat-like creations are well documented on Instagram.

**Jennifer Reifsneider’s** labor-intensive pieces combine forms and systems of identification in her mixed media pieces, such as measurements, collections, and embodiments, and her work is rooted in the materials, gestures, and patterns that defined her rural upbringing.

**Nike Schröder** expanded her practice from figurative motives to exploring the world of abstraction through precise systems of color calculations, which are based on a specific time and/or place. With her background as a painter, the artist explores the exceptional materiality of fibers and textiles as they overlap and extend beyond the traditional frame of a painting into the environment.

**Ruth Katzenstein Souza** knew from an early age, after visiting Watts Towers, that she wanted to create her own world using found and cast off materials as an antidote for the huge amount of waste in the modern world. Souza incorporates the slow processes of weaving and sewing to counteract the hurried pace of life and add a layer of meaning that often gets lost. Her work includes sewn and woven, knotted rugs, and the use of raw materials to bring the process to life.

**Lorenzo Hurtado Segovia** uses multiple sources and materials to create intricate and multi-layered textiles, world crafts, and painting. The artworks put forth an aggregate thesis with nuanced motifs, forms, content, and concepts.

**Ann Weber** has been working in cardboard since 1991, allowing her the freedom to make monumental, yet lightweight forms, and eliminate the cumbersome process of clay. Inspired by Frank Gehry’s cardboard furniture, her abstract sculptures read as metaphors for life experiences, such as the balancing act, which defines our lives.

## **GALLERY PROGRAMS**

### **Performance Works and Educational Events During *Fiberlicious***

#### **Participatory Events**

*Saturdays, November 7 and 28, and December 12, from 12-5 pm*

#### **Carole Frances Lung aka Frau Fiber**

##### ***The Peoples Cloth Trade Show: Made in Los Angeles***

Carole Frances Lung aka Frau Fiber, *Fiberlicious* artist and a former East German textile designer invites the public to come and learn to make an American Apparel garment. As a former East German textile worker, turned global activist invites you to exchange your leisure time for personal production!

#### **Conversations with the Artists**

*These programs are designed to engage the general public in dialogues with the exhibiting artists.*

**Thursday, October 29, 7:00 pm**

**Saturday, November 14, 3:00 pm**

**Saturday, December 12, 3:00 pm**

#### **Performance**

**Saturday, November 14, 3:00 pm**

Artist **Krista Feld** invites the public to come and experience her performance art.

#### **FREE Family Art Workshops**

**Saturday, November 21**

**Saturday, December 5**

*All workshops are from 12 – 3 pm*

*No Reservations Necessary and Supplies are provided.*