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**Department of Cultural Affairs Announces
Los Angeles Printmaking Society 20th National Exhibition
at the Municipal Art Gallery**

Exhibition Dates: October 29, 2009 – January 3, 2010
Exhibition Opening Reception: November 1, 2:00 p.m.

Los Angeles – The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs is pleased to announce the *Los Angeles Printmaking Society (LAPS) National Exhibition* at the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery at Barnsdall Park. This year will be the largest LAPS National Exhibition with 193 artists presenting their work as well as recent prints selected from eight of the celebrated Los Angeles presses: Cirrus Editions, Gemini G.E.L, Hamilton Press, Josephine Press, Pat Merrill Fine Art Prints, Mixografia, El Nopal Press, and Zita Press.

LAPS 20th National Exhibition will also include two special LAPS shows: *LA Printmaking: 1962 to 1973*, an historic perspective on an important decade and *Robert Blackburn (1920-2003)*, a memorial exhibition for the national honoree. Blackburn was an important New York artist and influential printmaker whose work has rarely been seen in the west.

The show opens Sunday, October 29, 2009, and remains on view through January 3, 2010. The exhibition's opening reception will be held on Sunday, November 1, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. In addition, the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery will present a series of workshops, *Conversations with the Artists*, a series of artist's talks in the Art Gallery; and a panel and film presentation on *LA Printmaking: 1962 to 1973*. Please refer to the detailed premier performance and events schedule that follows for more information. Admission to all events is free.

The Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery is a facility of the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs and is located at 4800 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, 90027. Admission is free. The Gallery is open Thursdays through Sundays, 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. Hours are extended to 9:00 p.m. on First Fridays. For general information, the public may call 323.644.6269.

Event schedules are as follows:

LAPS Donor Reception

Wednesday, October 28, with a walk through discussion by 20th National juror, Peter Frank

Public Opening Reception

Sunday, November 1, 2009, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Special Exhibition Events:

Sunday, November 1, 1:00 p.m.

Phil Sanders, Director of the Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop, New York City, will speak about the life and art of legendary artist Robert Blackburn and his internationally renowned printmaking workshop.

Friday, November 6, 7:00 p.m.

Conversation with the artists

Sunday, November 15

Two Printmaking Workshops with Laura Stickney, Program Coordinator
Junior Arts Center

Adult Introductory Workshop, 11:00 to 12:30 p.m.

All Ages Workshop for Families, 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Saturday November 21, 2:00 p.m.

Conversation with the artists

Saturday, December 5, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Panel and Film presentation on LA Printmaking: 1962 to 1973

The first decade of the Los Angeles Printmaking Society was a dynamic time of activism, innovation, and change for artists in Southern California. A panel and film presentation will explore issues, people, and events that made the sixties and early seventies such a transformative period for printmaking.

About Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)

The Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) both generates and supports high quality arts and cultural experiences for Los Angeles residents and visitors. DCA advances the social and economic impact of the arts and assures access to arts and cultural experiences through grant making, marketing, public and community arts programming, arts education, and creating partnerships with artists and arts and cultural organizations in every community in the City of Los Angeles.

DCA grants \$3.2 million annually to over 280 artists and nonprofit arts organizations and awards the Artist-in-Residence (A.I.R.) and City of Los Angeles (C.O.L.A.) Individual Artist Fellowships. The Department provides arts and cultural programming in its numerous Neighborhood Arts and Cultural Centers, theaters, and historic sites, and manages several arts and education programs for young people. It directs public art projects and manages the City's Arts Development Fee and Percent for Arts Programs, and the Art Collection and Murals Programs. DCA markets the City's cultural events through development and collaboration with strategic partners, design and production of creative promotional materials, and management of the culturela.org website.