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**59 L.A. Artists to Represent the City of Los Angeles in
Panorama: Los Angeles
The Special Exhibition at ARCOmadrid 2010
Curated by Kris Kuramitsu & Christopher Miles
Sponsored by the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs**

**Los Angeles
First City to Be Honored in the 29-Year History of
The International Contemporary Art Fair**

**February 17–21, 2010
Madrid, Spain**

Los Angeles, CA (November 30, 2009) – Fifty-nine L.A. artists have been chosen to represent the City of Los Angeles, the Guest of Honor at the 29th edition of ARCOmadrid, the International Contemporary Art Fair, in Madrid, Spain, February 17 through 21, 2010.

For the first time in the Fair's 29-year history, ARCOmadrid is honoring a city, rather than a country, in a special exhibition titled *Panorama: Los Angeles*, recognizing L.A. as one of the most prolific and vibrant contemporary arts centers in the international art world. Curated by Los Angeles-based independent curators Kris Kuramitsu and Christopher Miles and sponsored by the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, *Panorama: Los Angeles* presents a timely cross-section of the diversity of work being made in L.A. in terms of media, genre, and inclination, and produced by artists who vary in background, generation, and notoriety. The artists are represented by galleries ranging from some of the most longstanding and established in Los Angeles to some that have opened only in the last few years, and span the city from the west-side, to mid-city, to downtown.

Artists representing L.A. in *Panorama: Los Angeles* are **Edgar Arceneaux, John Baldessari, Walead Beshty, Rebecca Campbell, Karen Carson, Matt Connors, Mario Correa, Allison Cortson, Kate Costello, Russell Crotty, Krysten Cunningham, Tomory Dodge, Brad Eberhard, Victor Estrada, Kirsten Everberg, Bart Exposito, Erik Frydenborg, Gajin Fujita, Anthony Hernandez, David Hockney, Pearl Hsuing, Elliott Hundley, Ben Jackel, Stanya Kahn, Mary Kelly, John Kleckner, Edward Kienholz, Dinh Le, William Leavitt, Charles Long, Nathan Mabry, Erlea Maneros, Sandeep Mukherjee, Patrick Nickell, Camilo Ontiveros, Eamon Ore-Giron, Kaz Oshiro, Andy Ouchi, Laura Owens, Jorge Pardo, Lari Pittman, Laura Riboli, Rochelle Rojanay, Dean Sameshima, Analia Saban, Allan Sekula, Joe Sola, Jeni Spota, Jennifer Steinkamp, Don Suggs, Mungo Thomson, Shirley Tse, Monique van Genderen, Eric Wesley, Pae White, John Williams, Brian Wills, Rowan Wood and Brenna Youngblood.**

“Our selection process was in essence a search for vitality in all its forms,” said Christopher Miles. “The artists for *Panorama: Los Angeles* are by no means comprehensive. It’s more an attempt to be as true as possible to the idea of a panorama in a city that constantly surprises and never yields to a singular view. Los Angeles is not defined by a dominant ‘school’ or movement as other cities in other times have been. What defines Los Angeles as a city for art is the fact that the city has become, and continues to be, a major center for art production, distribution, and discourse during a time in which centers increasingly do not hold.”

The seventeen galleries representing Los Angeles are **1301PE, ACME., Cherry and Martin, China Art Objects Galleries, Christopher Grimes Gallery, The Happy Lion, Kathryn Brennan Gallery, LA Louver, Margo Leavin Gallery, Peres Projects, Redling Fine Art, Regen Projects, Rosamund Felsen Gallery, Shoshana Wayne Gallery, Steve Turner Contemporary, Thomas Solomon Gallery, and Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects.**

“Putting together this kind of project within the context of an international contemporary art fair is complicated given that curatorial projects revolve around artists while fairs are structured around galleries,” said curator Kris Kuramitsu. “We are quite pleased with the roster of galleries participating in the fair. But this project began with the artists, and we have kept our eye on the artists. The *Panorama: Los Angeles* section contains great galleries, but it is about outstanding artists.”

In addition, Kuramitsu and Miles have also organized numerous satellite exhibitions featuring Los Angeles artists at unique venues and art spaces throughout Madrid.

“This is a great honor for the City of Los Angeles and all its artists to be recognized by this prestigious international arts fair. It is another indication of Los Angeles’ place at the center of the global dialogue on contemporary artistic practice.” said Olga Garay, Executive Director, City of Los Angeles, Cultural Affairs Department.

“ARCOMadrid invited Los Angeles at the Guest of Honor for the 2010 edition to recognize and showcase the contemporary art scene there today. L.A. is a leading arts capital,” said Director of ARCOMadrid Lourdes Fernandez. “Los Angeles and its artists are such an important voice in today’s dialogue of contemporary art. We were pleased to have independent L.A. curators, Christopher Miles and Kris Kuramitsu, organize ARCOMadrid’s *Panorama: Los Angeles*, a sampling of the best of L.A. as seen from the perspective of Angelenos.”

Los Angeles, Art Capital

In 1957, artist Edward Kienholz and curator Walter Hopps opened the Ferus Gallery in L.A., marking the relative beginning of the city’s modern and contemporary art scene. Since then Los Angeles has risen to prominence as a center of artistic production as well as a rich cultural landscape on an international scale, supporting artists, museums, art schools, alternative spaces, art fairs, and over 400 galleries. In the last five years, the art world has taken note of Los Angeles and its artists: in 2005, Los Angeles artist Ed Ruscha was selected to represent the United States at the 51st Venice Biennale; in 2006, the Pompidou Centre in Paris presented the groundbreaking exhibition *Los Angeles 1955–1985: The Birth of an Artistic Capital*; in 2008, the Broad Contemporary Art Museum opened on LACMA’s campus, boasting one of the largest contemporary art spaces in the U.S. Now in 2010, *Panorama: Los Angeles* at ARCOMadrid presents an overview of the current art scene in one of the most important urban centers of today. Next up in Fall 2011, *Pacific Standard Time: Art in LA 1945–1980*, a joint initiative of the

Getty Foundation and the Getty Research Institute marking an unprecedented series of concurrent exhibitions presented at cultural institutions throughout Southern California, will highlight post-World War II art in L.A. and further celebrate Los Angeles as an art capital.

Panorama: Los Angeles – Curator Biographies

Kris Kuramitsu

Kris Kuramitsu is an independent curator based in Los Angeles. She is the curator for the Eileen Harris Norton Collection, which focuses on international contemporary art with strong concentrations of work by artists of the African Diaspora and artists from Southern California. Recently, she curated the exhibition "*Et in Arcadia Ego*" at Estación Tijuana and "*20 Years Ago Today: Supporting Visual Artists in Los Angeles*" at the Japanese American National Museum. She has served as the Programs Director at Creative Link for the Arts in New York; curator for the collections of Eileen and Peter Norton; and as the Arts Programs Director for the Peter Norton Family Foundation. Her publications include catalogue essays in "*Linkage and Themes in the African Diaspora*" for the Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco; "*Hew Locke*" for the New Art Gallery, Wallsall, England; and the essay "*Reading the Body (of Work): Yayoi Kusama and the New York Avant-Garde*" in "*Decomposition: Post-Disciplinary Performance*," among others. She has an MA in Art History from UCLA.

Christopher Miles

Christopher Miles is Associate Chair and Graduate Advisor for the Department of Art at California State University, Long Beach. He has also taught at Art Center College of Design, the Claremont Graduate University, UCLA, UC Santa Barbara and the University of Southern California. He is a recipient of the 2004 Penny McCall Award for his work as a writer/curator, and was one of three curators of the Hammer Museum's survey exhibition, *Thing: New Sculpture from Los Angeles*, which received a 2005 award for "Best Thematic Exhibition Nationally" from AICA/USA, the United States chapter of the International Association of Art Critics. Miles has served on panels and lectured at many venues in the United States. He recently visited China, where he lectured at the Tianjin Academy of Fine Arts and the Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts. Miles writes regularly for *Artforum* and *LA Weekly*. His writings have also appeared in *Art & Auction*, *Art Lies*, *Art Nexus*, *Art Papers*, *artext*, *Artweek*, *dArt*, *Flash Art*, *Flaunt*, *Frieze*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *Tate Etc.*, *Tema Celeste*, *X-Tra* and other publications.

About ARCOmadrid

ARCOmadrid 2010 hosts more than 150 galleries from Spain and around the world at the 29th edition of the International Contemporary Art Fair which takes place February 17 –21, 2010. City of Los Angeles is the Guest of Honor, and works from select artists will be seen in a special exhibition, *Panorama: Los Angeles*, curated by Kris Kuramitsu and Christopher Miles.

For more information about ARCOmadrid, visit www.ifema.es/ferias/arco/in.html

For travel arrangements from the United States: Pinacoteca NYC, www.pinacotecanyc.com

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