



DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
City of Los Angeles

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MEDIA ALERT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 3, 2011

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Department of Cultural Affairs New Exhibit
Framing Abstraction: Mark, Symbol, Signifier
At Municipal Art Gallery

Exhibition Dates: February 27, 2011 – April 24, 2011
Exhibition Opening Reception: Sunday, February 27, 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Los Angeles - The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) is pleased to present ***Framing Abstraction: Mark, Symbol, Signifier*** group show exhibition at the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery in Barnsdall Park. The show will be on view from February 27 to April 24, 2011. The Opening Reception will be held on Sunday, February 27, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Framing Abstraction: Mark, Symbol, Signifier is meant to celebrate the centennial of abstract painting. Abstract art has evolved from its original spiritual and utopian stance in the early 20th century to an art which was seen as radical-avant-garde, and on to its present vibrant position. Refuting the digital display of the current moment, abstract paintings are simply pictures, brushed by the hand of the artist, in which emotional intuition is framed by the artist's rational mind into dynamic metaphors.

Included in this exhibition are artists Lita Albuquerque, Jordi Alcaraz, Gary Edward Blum, Hans Burkhardt, Meg Cranston, Mark Harrington, James Hayward, Charles Christopher Hill, Kevan Jenson, Naomie Kremer, and Manfred Müller. The exhibition is curated by Marlena Doktorczyk-Donohue and Peter Selz.

In addition, the Municipal Art Gallery will present Conversations with the Artists, a program designed as a series of talks with selected artists and guest curators giving audiences the opportunity to engage directly with featured individuals in an informal setting. Also, a free family art workshop will be held on March 26, dedicated for families and children of all ages. Admission to all events is free. Please refer to the detailed events schedule that follows for more information.

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. For general information, the public may call 323.644.6269.



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CONVERSATION WITH THE ARTISTS:

Friday, March 4, 7 pm

Mark Harrington and Manfred Muller in a Q&A with Curator Marlena Doktorczyk-Donohue

Saturday, March 26, 2 pm

Jack Rutberg, Director of Jack Rutberg Gallery, speaking for Jordi Alcaraz and Hans Burkhardt

Friday, April 1, 7 pm

Meg Cranston in a Q&A with Curator Marlena Doktorczyk-Donohue

Saturday, April 16, 2 pm

Charles Christopher Hill, Kevan Jenson and Gary Edward Blum

FREE FAMILY ART WORKSHOP:

Saturday, March 26, 1- 3 pm

Free Family Art Workshops are for families and children of all ages. Please join the Municipal Gallery for an afternoon of art making and fun. No reservations are necessary. For information call: (323) 644-6269 or email: met_marta@sbcglobal.net

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

The **Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)** generates and supports high-quality arts and cultural experiences for Los Angeles' 4 million residents and 25 million annual visitors. DCA advances the social and economic impact of the arts and assures access to arts and cultural experiences through grant making, marketing, public art, community arts programming, arts education, and partnerships with artists and arts and cultural organizations in neighborhoods throughout the City of Los Angeles.

DCA's operating budget and managed portfolio totaled \$36.7 million in fiscal year 2009/10. It consisted of: \$9.6 million in Transient Occupancy Tax funds; \$12.2 million in funds from the Public Works Improvements Arts Program; \$8.6 million from the Private Arts Development Fee Program; \$4.9 million in City related and indirect cost allocations; and \$1.4 million in private and public funds raised during the year. DCA grants approximately \$3 million annually to over 280 artists and nonprofit arts organizations through its long-established Grants Administration Division. DCA provides arts and cultural programming in its numerous neighborhood arts and cultural centers, theaters, and historic sites, and manages several arts and education programs.

The Department also administers the City's Private Arts Development Fee and Public Works Improvements Arts Programs, a portfolio of approximately \$20.8 million in fiscal year 2009/10. In addition, DCA raises outside public and private



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funds, over \$10.5 million since fiscal year 2007/08, used to re-grant to LA-based arts and cultural organizations for special grant initiatives and to support DCA's special programming and facilities. 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 visited by over 2.7 million people annually.

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