



*Los Angeles World Airports*



DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
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## News Release

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## LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LAUNCHES FIRST-EVER PUBLIC ART FESTIVAL, FEATURING 11 INSTALLATIONS AND ARTWORKS BY 45 LOS ANGELES ARTISTS

### *Influx: Art at LAX*

*On view through Dec. 31, 2013; Self-guided tour map available online*

Los Angeles, Calif. (June 28, 2013) – In celebration of its expansion and renovation, the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) is launching its first-ever public art festival this month, entitled *Influx: Art at LAX*. Presented by Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA), in partnership with the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA), *Influx* features 11 original, site-specific art installations located throughout LAX and includes the work of 45 Los Angeles-based artists. The festival is a virtual survey of Los Angeles's diverse art practices, including video, large-scale sculptures, mixed-media, ink drawings, and murals.

"With the opening of the New Tom Bradley International Terminal, LAX is beginning a new era, and the art program is an important part of this transformation," says Sarah Cifarelli, art manager for LAWA, noting that *Influx* nearly doubles the LAWA Art Program's exhibition space. "With the unprecedented scope of *Influx*, the airport's public spaces have become a showcase for Los Angeles's dynamic contemporary art scene, for the enjoyment of passengers, visitors, and locals alike."

Many of the new exhibition sites have been thoughtfully selected to enliven and enrich how people experience the airport. For example, *Flow and Glimpse* by Barbara Strasen in Terminal 2 and *Elevate* by Joyce Dallal in Terminal 3, are dramatic, large-scale installations that transform the departures atriums. *Flow and Glimpse* depicts the rich textures and diversity of Los Angeles through 90 lenticular panels that change in response to the location of the viewer. *Elevate* consists of two large sculptural



*Elevate* by Joyce Dallal

formations made of hundreds of colorful and seemingly delicate paper airplanes, handmade from Japanese paper and imprinted with excerpts from the Geneva Conventions. Both of these works provide a dazzling architectural spectacle; for ticketed passengers, they continue to engage and delight, animating the otherwise mundane experience of passing through airport security checkpoints.



*Blow Me a Kiss* by Eileen Cowin

Other works activate previously underused spaces, such as *Blow Me a Kiss* by Eileen Cowin, a vibrant video installation that beckons and gestures to people in the ticketing area in Terminal 3. The ticketing and departures area of Terminal 6 is another new exhibition space, with a site-specific installation *Why Are You Here / No Thing To Declare / Declare Experience* by the code artist ETMCA, which includes several large, visually stunning paintings embedded with code related to the experience of travel. In Terminals 7 and 8, curator Elizabetha Betinski has transformed a previously sparse hallway, uniting the large-scale and seemingly disparate work of two artists with *Transitional Beings: Rebecca Niederlander & Shizu Saldamando*.

*Influx* also encompasses two curated group shows. *A Look at COLA Individual Artist Fellowships*, located in Terminal 1, is a mini-retrospective featuring works by 28 past recipients of the City of Los Angeles (COLA) Individual Artist Fellowship Award, curated by Scott Carty, director and curator of the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery. In Terminal 3, *Levitational*, curated by John David O'Brien, is a multi-faceted exhibit with a wide range of artworks about defying the forces of gravity, either in practice or in appearance.

Additional *Influx* installations include *#LAXPOPIES* by Jorge Oswaldo, located in the central meet and greet area of Baggage Claim in Terminal 1. Consisting of eight bold, expressive, and brilliantly colored canvases depicting poppies, this site-specific installation reinterprets the tradition of greeting a loved one at the airport with flowers for the age of social media. For ticketed passengers, Terminal 1 also offers Eileen Cowin's *Point of Departure*, located in the main Departures concourse, which inverts the traditional art display case, creating in its place a large-scale story box consisting of four evocative, and somewhat mysterious, photographs, as well as *My Life in Airports* by Deborah Aschheim, a gallery-like installation at Gate 2 featuring more than 125 ink drawings from the artist's travel diary. In the Tom Bradley International Terminal, also for ticketed passengers, Cynthia Minet has created *Packing (Caravan)*, a colorful and whimsical parade of four life-size domesticated animals made from recycled and re-purposed plastics and illuminated with LED lights.



*#LAXPOPIES* by Jorge Oswaldo

*Influx* will be on view through the end of 2013. A free map of *Influx* is available for download at [http://www.lawa.org/welcome\\_lax.aspx?id=1602](http://www.lawa.org/welcome_lax.aspx?id=1602). Members of the public are welcome to visit LAX for self-guided tours.

## **ABOUT LOS ANGELES WORLD AIRPORTS PUBLIC ART AND EXHIBITIONS PROGRAM**

Initiated in 1990, the purpose of the Public Art and Exhibitions Program at Los Angeles World Airports is to educate and entertain the traveling public at LAX and LA/Ontario International Airports and the FlyAway Bus Terminal at Van Nuys Airport. The program showcases local and regional artists through temporary exhibitions and permanent public art installations, which enhance and humanize the overall travel experience for millions every year. For additional information, please visit [www.lawa.org](http://www.lawa.org).

## **ABOUT 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 overnight and day visitors. DCA advances the social and economic impact of the arts and ensures access to diverse and enriching cultural activities through: grant making, marketing, 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. Become a fan on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/culturela](http://www.facebook.com/culturela).

## **ABOUT LOS ANGELES WORLD AIRPORTS**

LAX is the sixth busiest airport in the world and third in the United States, offering 680 daily flights to 96 domestic cities and 930 weekly nonstop flights to 59 cities in 30 countries on 63 commercial air carriers. It ranks 14th in the world and fifth in the U.S. in air cargo tonnage processed. In 2012, LAX served nearly 63.7 million passengers, processed over 1.9 million tons of air cargo valued at over \$86.9 billion, and handled 605,480 aircraft operations (landings and takeoffs). An economic impact study in 2011 reported that operations at LAX generated 294,400 jobs in Los Angeles County with labor income of \$13.6 billion and economic output of more than \$39.7 billion. This activity added \$2.5 billion to local and state revenues. LAX is part of a system of three Southern California airports – along with LA/Ontario International and Van Nuys general aviation – that are owned and operated by Los Angeles World Airports, a proprietary department of the City of Los Angeles that receives no funding from the City's general fund. For more information about LAX, please visit [www.lawa.aero/lax](http://www.lawa.aero/lax) or follow us on Twitter [@LAX\\_Official](#), on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/LAInternationalAirport](http://www.facebook.com/LAInternationalAirport), and on YouTube at [www.YouTube.com/laxairport1](http://www.YouTube.com/laxairport1).

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**High-resolution images available upon request.**

