



**City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs
CURRENT:LA FOOD Public Art Triennial**

MEDIA RELEASE

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**City of Los Angeles
Department of Cultural Affairs
Announces
Public Programmers and Sites
for
CURRENT:LA FOOD
Second Iteration of LA's Public Art Triennial**

CURRENT:LA Food Features Free Public Programs Across the City

Los Angeles – The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) is pleased to announce the public programmers and sites for the second iteration of its citywide Public Art Triennial, **CURRENT:LA FOOD**, taking place October 5 through November 3, 2019 in each of the City's 15 Council Districts. The month-long exhibition will focus on the topic of food.

CURRENT:LA FOOD will present art projects by 15 local, national, and international artists and artists teams who are taking on the global issue of food to highlight and encourage discussion on a range of topics such as: food deserts, urban agriculture, food distribution systems, and food equity. Commissioning art installations, performances, and events in public parks, **CURRENT:LA FOOD** aims to engage visitors in discussions that affects Los Angeles residents as well as the broader global community through the exploration of art.

DCA is excited to announce that in addition to the 15 artists and artists teams commissioned to create temporary public art projects for **CURRENT:LA FOOD**, the agency also commissioned a set of public programs to deepen the visitor experience and engage the community. These free public programs feature cultural events ranging from a vegan food experience to bread workshops rooted in South American, Middle Eastern, and African traditions. Other featured

events include: a Foodscapes Festival: Art, Cultural, and Ecological Histories; solar cooking workshops; The Art of Food: A Recipe for Community; a sound performance with tea service; a Sustainable Urban Food Systems Summit; Rainbow Feast; a Muscle House Cookbook performance series; and a Family + Food = Love: A Parent Appreciation Picnic; among others.

The public programmers commissioned for **CURRENT:LA FOOD** are:

Across Our Kitchen Tables

Babsi Loisch

Bed & Breakfast

Center for the Arts Eagle Rock

Christopher Reynolds

The Golden Dome

Human Resources LA

LA Commons

Leyna Lightman

Los Angeles Eats Itself

Los Angeles Food Policy Council

Lucia Fabio

SEE-LA (Sustainable Economic Enterprises of Los Angeles)

SÜPRSEED

Women's Center for Creative Work

The **CURRENT:LA FOOD** sites are:

Barnsdall Park

Delano Recreation Center

Exposition Park Rose Garden

LA State Historic Park

Leimert Plaza Park

Martin Luther King Jr. Park

Orcutt Ranch Horticultural Center

Palms Park

Pan Pacific Park

Pershing Square

Reseda Recreation Center

Roger Jessup Park

Ted Watkins Memorial Park

Valley Plaza Recreation Center

Venice Beach Recreation Center

“By offering events for free in public parks, **CURRENT:LA FOOD** invites people to engage with food issues, building a civic dialogue that challenges us as a human family,” said Danielle Brazell, General Manager of the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. “We hope residents and visitors alike will experience as many of these unique events as they can, exploring the art, the urgent issues, and the city itself.”

Each **CURRENT:LA FOOD** public programmer will be assigned to the following sites and paired with the triennial's commissioned artists:

CURRENT:LA FOOD

Artist – Site – Public Programmer

Eva Aguila & Coaxial Arts Foundation - Reseda Recreation Center - Across Our Kitchen Tables

Cooking Sections - Venice Beach Recreation Center - Human Resources LA

Adrià Julià - LA State Historic Park - Los Angeles Food Policy Council

Nancy Lupo - Pershing Square - The Golden Dome

Shana Lutker - Valley Plaza Recreation Center - Christopher Reynolds

Emily Marchand - Roger Jessup Park - Bed & Breakfast

Julio César Morales & Max La Rivière-Hedrick - Barnsdall Park - Los Angeles Eats Itself

Nonfood - Orcutt Ranch Horticultural Center - Lucia Fabio

Michael Queenland - Exposition Park Rose Garden - Center for the Arts Eagle Rock

Michael Rakowitz - Pan Pacific Park - Leyna Lightman

Carolyn Pennypacker Riggs & Annie Gimás - Delano Recreation Center - Women's Center for Creative Work

Ry Rocklen - Palms Park - Babsi Loisch

Torolab - Ted Watkins Memorial Park - LA Commons

Jazmin Urrea - Martin Luther King Jr. Park - SEE-LA (Sustainable Economic Enterprises of Los Angeles)

Nari Ward - Leimert Plaza Park - SÜPRSEED

CURRENT:LA FOOD is organized by a lead curatorial team from the Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (ICA LA) represented by Asuka Hisa (Director of Learning and Engagement, ICA LA) and Jamillah James (Curator, ICA LA) as well as curatorial advisors: Lauren Mackler, independent curator, founder of Public Fiction, and co-curator of *Made in LA 2020*, Hammer Museum; Diana Nawi, independent curator and co-curator of Prospect.5, New Orleans; and Marco Rios, artist and Curator at the Luckman Gallery, California State University, Los Angeles.

CURRENT:LA FOOD partners include: the Office of the Mayor Eric Garcetti; the Los Angeles City Council; the Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks; the City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation; Los Angeles State Historic Park; Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department -

Ted Watkins Memorial Park; the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority; California State University, Los Angeles; and Public Media Group of Southern California - KCET's Artbound.

About CURRENT:LA

CURRENT:LA puts a new spin on traditional international triennials by democratizing the way people access art. The initiative shifts art away from the museum environment and places temporary public art projects and public programs in the neighborhoods of Los Angeles where residents and visitors live, work, and play.

CURRENT:LA uses contemporary art as a way to deepen connections on issues affecting Los Angeles and other global cities to inspire civic discourse on those particular issues.

CURRENT:LA is funded by the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. For more information about **CURRENT:LA FOOD**, please visit **currentla.org** or follow **CURRENT:LA** on Facebook, Instagram @current_la, and Twitter @current_la.

About CURRENT:LA FOOD

Food culture is more diverse today, offering more possibilities for exploration than ever before. From modern scientific experiments to the revival of local ethnic traditions, these developments are cause for wonder and celebration. And yet, we have food that is increasingly unhealthy and is unjustly distributed, while hunger and malnutrition continue to plague demographics around the world. The contributing artists for **CURRENT:LA FOOD** will highlight the advances — as well as the challenges — we face as producers and consumers.

Through major public art commissions and public programs with local, international, and multigenerational artists, **CURRENT:LA FOOD** will explore the multiplicity of food. Placement of the **CURRENT:LA FOOD** projects within LA's burgeoning public transit infrastructure will allow for greater exploration and access, bringing these projects directly to residents and visitors throughout the city. Through an intricate partnership between artists and community members, **CURRENT:LA FOOD** will shed new light on the precarious balance between pleasure and peril found in food today, and the many ways food gives expression to social and political life.

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

As a leading, progressive arts and cultural agency, DCA empowers Los Angeles's vibrant communities by supporting and providing access to quality visual, literary, musical, performing, and educational arts programming; managing vital cultural centers; preserving historic sites; creating public art; and funding services provided by arts organizations and individual artists.

Formed in 1925, DCA promotes arts and culture as a way to ignite a powerful dialogue, engage LA's residents and visitors, and ensure LA's varied cultures are recognized, acknowledged, and experienced. DCA's mission is to strengthen the quality of life in Los Angeles by stimulating and supporting arts and cultural activities, ensuring public access to the arts for residents and visitors alike.

DCA advances the social and economic impact of arts and culture through grant-making, public art, community arts, performing arts, and strategic marketing, development, design, and digital research. DCA creates and supports arts programming, maximizing relationships with other city

agencies, artists, and arts and cultural nonprofit organizations to provide excellent service in neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles.

For more information, please visit culturela.org or follow us on Facebook at: facebook.com/culturela, Instagram [@culture_la](https://instagram.com/culture_la), and Twitter [@culture_la](https://twitter.com/culture_la).

#CURRENTLA

About the Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (ICA LA)

The Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (ICA LA) is an epicenter of artistic experimentation and incubator of new ideas. Founded in 1984 as the Santa Monica Museum of Art (SMMoA) and reestablished in 2017 with a new identity and home in Downtown Los Angeles, ICA LA builds upon a distinguished history of bold curatorial vision and innovative programming to illuminate the important untold stories and emerging voices in contemporary art and culture. ICA LA's mission is to support art that sparks the pleasure of discovery and challenges the way we see and experience the world, ourselves, and each other.

ICA LA is committed to upending hierarchies of race, class, gender, and culture. Through exhibitions, education programs, and community partnerships, ICA LA fosters critique of the familiar and empathy with the different. ICA LA is committed to making contemporary art relevant and accessible for all. Admission is free.

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