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# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE The Nothing That Is

# November 16, 2019 - January 17, 2020

Curated by: Yaron Dotan and Christine Rasmussen

Exhibiting Artists: Holly Boruck, Arminée Chahbazian, Chelsea Dean, Yaron Dotan, Dawn Marie Forsyth, Jenn Fuentes, Kaloust Guedel, Michael Henry Hayden + Anthony Lepore, Larry Kagan, Andrew Paine, Christine Rasmussen, Colin Roberts, Linda Vallejo, Joséphine Wister Faure, and Monica Wyatt.

# **OPENING RECEPTION: Saturday, November 16, 6-9pm**

For the listener, who listens in the snow, And, nothing himself, beholds Nothing that is not there and the nothing that is. -Wallace Stevens, The Snow Man (line 13-15)

Humans are innately creative. We have the ability to make something out of nothing, with just our bare hands. But lately our newest innovations have become soulless, the human touch lost in the pursuit of purported efficiency and flawless design.

In this show, the artists bear witness. Observe closely. Respond with hand-crafted objects. Through shadows, empty landscapes, broken and reassembled vessels, depictions of invisible people, and humans distorted by technology, an understanding begins to form. Delacroix said, "I can paint you the skin of Venus with mud, provided you let me surround it as I will." Likewise, the artists declare: We will give you a human being made of emptiness provided you let us surround it as we will.

They ask viewers to see for ourselves, suggesting, as Wallace Stevens did in his poem The Snow Man, that we behold the "nothing that is not there, and the nothing that is."

The Opening Reception for **The Nothing That Is** is on Saturday, November 16, 6-9PM at Brand Library & Art Center (1601 West Mountain Street, Glendale, CA 91201). The reception is FREE and open to the public. Artists will be in attendance.

# **Additional Programming:**

Sunday, January 12, 2020 - 11am-4pm

# Poetry & Art Day at Brand

Begin the New Year with a day of programming that will help you reconnect through movement, poetry, and art. Join us for guided Qigong and Yoga, art activities suitable for all ages, a curator led tour of the gallery, an ekphrastic poetry workshop and performance, and a fascinating lecture on the poetry of Wallace Stevens presented by Jeff Cassvan from Queens College. All programming at Brand Library is FREE and open to the public.

## Featured Artists:



## HOLLY BORUCK

Holly Boruck lives and works in the Los Angeles area. She has an MFA in Painting from Cal State University Northridge and a BFA from California College of the Arts in San Francisco. Her work has been exhibited in solo and group exhibitions locally and at international venues. Holly is an Adjunct Professor at Cal State University Northridge and is a faculty member in LA based Ryman Arts program. www.hollyboruck.com



#### ARMINÉE CHAHBAZIAN

Arminée Chahbazian is a practicing visual artist with an MFA from Yale University, a BA from Scripps College, and studies at Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture. Born in Colorado, she has lived in France, the eastern US and currently Northern California. Arminée's work has been included in numerous exhibitions across the US, France and Holland and features in many private collections. Recent shows include at Lois Lambert Gallery, the Napa Valley Museum and Sonoma Valley Museum. www.arminee.com



# CHELSEA DEAN

Chelsea Dean was born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona and has a BA in Studio Art from the University of Puget Sound, and an MFA in Drawing from Claremont Graduate University. Dean has exhibited throughout Southern California at High Desert Test Sites, The Main Museum, Carl Berg Gallery, Raid Projects, Fellows of Contemporary Art, PØST, Monte Vista Projects, and Cirrus Gallery, as well as internationally at Gallery Lara Tokyo in Tokyo. She currently teaches art full-time in Los Angeles and has a studio in Lincoln Heights. www.chelseadean.com



# YARON DOTAN

Yaron Dotan is a Los Angeles-based artist who works in a variety of media and styles to produce optical drawings, narrative paintings, portraiture and video art. He holds anMFA from Tufts University, an MS Ed. from St. John's University, and a BA in English Literature from Queens College. Internationally he has shown at the the National Taiwan Museum of Fine Art, the Jerusalem Biennale, and Wolf Galentz Gallery in Berlin. In California he has shown at the Coachella Valley Art Center, Durden and Ray, bG Gallery, LAVA Projects, Chimento Contemporary, LACDA and LAMAG. He currently teaches drawing and painting at the Barnsdall Art Center in Los Angeles. www.yarondotan.com



#### **DAWN MARIE FORSYTH**

Dawn Marie Forsyth is a DTLA artist who uses a deconstruct/reconstruct mixed-media process to create paintings, sculptures and installations that question our concepts of gender, identity and beauty imposed by culture and society. She is a Creative Director at DAFOMA studios and an Educator at The Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising. She has been dedicated to the study of aesthetics through art, fashion and design industries. Her work negotiates our relationship with self, societal ideals and triumph of the spirit. <u>http://mixedmediartist.com</u>



#### **JENN FUENTES**

Born and raised in New York City, Jennifer Fuentes is a graduate of Yale's prestigious graduate School of Art. Jennifer's work focuses on the beauty found in everyday life; she features the human form prominently through oil on wood and ink on paper. In addition to making art, Jennifer is a certified teacher who loves guiding her students to explore their own creativity.



## KALOUST GUEDEL

Kaloust Guedel is a LA-based artist of Armenian descent. He is the founder of the Excessivism movement. As an experimental artist, he consistently defines his visual vocabulary.

Guedel's work has been exhibited nationally and internationally, and is in numerous collections, including The Charles Saatchi collection of London, and Contemporary Art Museum Yerevan, Armenia. His work has been published in The Huffington Post, New American Paintings, Eyes On Abstracts and many others. In 2017, he was awarded the prestigious Who's Who in American Art award. Guedel's professional experience as a guest curator includes at Forest Lawn Museums, H. Kazan Fine Arts, and Brand Library Art Galleries.

## MICHAEL HENRY HAYDEN + ANTHONY LEPORE

Michael Henry Hayden lives and works in LA. He received his MFA from USC, and his BFA from Cooper Union. He has had solo exhibitions at ACME, Steve Turner, and Left Field Gallery. His work has been exhibited at LAXART, Lyles & King, TEAM Gallery, Roberts Projects, M+B, Charlie James, and Xippas.

Anthony Lepore lives and works in LA. He received his MFA from Yale University, and his BFA from Fordham University. He has had solo exhibitions at Moskowitz Bayse, California Museum of Photography, M+B, Ghebaly, Groeflin Maag, Marvelli Gallery, and The Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art. His work is collected by LACMA, The Getty Museum, The Guggenheim, and the Hammer Museum. Hayden and Lepore have presented their collaborations at 356 Mission, Del Vaz Projects, The Finley, and Left Field Gallery.

www.michaelhenryhayden.com + www.anthonylepore.net

# LARRY KAGAN

Born in 1946 to holocaust survivors, his family immigrated to Israel and then to the US. He studied engineering and architecture at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and went on to do his graduate work in studio arts. He has exhibited his sculpture nationally and abroad, and was represented by the OK Harris gallery in New York City. He now resides and maintains his sculpture studio in Los Angeles. <u>larrykagansculpture.com</u>



#### ANDREW PAINE

After graduating from the University of Buffalo with a B.A. in Fine Art, Andrew has applied his creativity to both the visual and musical realm. When not painting and experimenting with a wide variety of mediums and styles, he records and performs with the experimental electronic music duo, Human Resources. His paintings and music similarly explore and contain elements of collage, randomness, nature and intentionally leave plenty of space for the viewer and listener to latch on to different elements and respond according to the unique place they are in at that moment. www.andrewpaine.com







#### **CHRISTINE RASMUSSEN**

Christine Rasmussen is a professional artist with a BA from UC Berkeley in Art Practice and Peace & Conflict Studies. Recent awards include Jen Tough Gallery's highly-curated The Ladies Room exhibit, co-curating The Nothing That Is exhibit at Brand Art Center, a solo show at LAUNCH LA, a Chalk Hill Artist Residency and the prestigious Artist Label Program at Imagery Estate Winery. Her work features in private collections across the world and in the Hilbert Museum of California Art. Raised in Pakistan, Vietnam and the US, Christine now lives and works in Los Angeles. www.ChristineRasmussenArt.com



## **COLIN ROBERTS**

Colin received his BFA from Otis School of Art and Design in 2001. He has had solo exhibitions at Steve Turner Gallery, Patricia Faure Gallery and Monte Vista Projects. Colin has also participated in exhibitions at The Skirball Center, Mark Moore Gallery, June Lee Contemporary, Gavin Brown's Passerby Gallery NY, Torrance Art Museum, The Depart Foundation, LAMAG, Wolf and Galentz Berlin and many others. Colin's work resides in collections worldwide and he is currently represented by June Lee Contemporary in Orange County. He is also the founder and director of LAVA Projects Art Gallery in Los Angeles. www.colinrobertsart.com



## LINDA VALLEJO

Linda Vallejo investigates contemporary cultural and political issues, influenced from a life of study and travel throughout Europe, the US and Mexico. Recent achievements include a solo exhibition of her series Make 'Em All Mexican, The Brown Dot Project, and Datos Sagrados at L.A. Plaza de Cultura y Artes (2019-2020), features on the cover of the LA Times Calendar Section, and the Getty Foundation's 2017 Initiative Pacific Standard Time: PST LA/LA. Her work is in the permanent collections of museums and universities across the US. Linda lives in Topanga Canyon, CA. www.lindavallejo.com



#### **JOSÉPHINE WISTER FAURE**

French-American artist, Joséphine Wister Faure graduated from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Arts of Paris. She has taken part in various exhibitions in France: Fondation d'Entreprise Ricard, Le Plateau, Centre Pompidou. Her work travelled to Italy, Germany, the United States and China. In parallel to her visual artwork, Josephine has regularly worked in film, crafting props and accessories, which has led her to perfect different special effects techniques that serve her in her personal work. She lives and works in Los Angeles and in Paris. josephinewisterfaure.com





## MONICA WYATT

Monica Wyatt is a Los Angeles based mixed media artist who re-imagines unexpected and overlooked materials, transforming them into intimate assemblage sculpture. Through her material alchemy, ordinary objects metamorphose into poetic three dimensional creations that appear to have evolved organically.

Wyatt's recent exhibitions include a solo show at the Lancaster Museum of Art and History in 2018. She was featured as the inaugural artist at State Gallery, Santa Barbara in 2018, awarded Best in Show at Blackboard Gallery, Camarillo in 2015, and was the Los Angeles Art Association featured assemblage artist at the 2014 Beverly Hills Art Show. Her work is also shown at Eisenhauer Gallery on Martha's Vineyard and in numerous juried and curated shows throughout California. Wyatt co-curated "Walking Upstream" at The Loft Gallery in San Pedro, California in 2018. Her work is held in private collections across the United States. Wyatt is a graduate of UC Berkeley. monicawyatt.com

**Brand Library & Art Center** has been a cornerstone for the arts in Southern California since 1956. This unique public library focuses on visual arts and music and provides free services and programs for a diverse community, including a collection of over 110,000 items, subject specialist librarians, exhibitions, concerts, dance performances, films, and craft programs for children and adults. Brand Library & Art Center is a branch of the City of Glendale Library, Arts & Culture Department.

1601 West Mountain St. Glendale, CA 91201 | 818-548-2051 | brandlibrary.org Tuesday-Thursday: 11am-8pm, Friday-Sunday: 10am-5pm