

*For Immediate Release*

## **SoCalMFA 2018**

Hosted by Claremont Graduate University and the  
Millard Sheets Art Center at Fairplex  
Juried by Howard N. Fox

Opening reception: Sunday, March 25th, 2-6 p.m.  
Exhibit on view from March 24<sup>th</sup> – June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018

Millard Sheets Art Center (At Fairplex)  
1101 W. McKinley Ave., Pomona, CA 91768

Gallery Hours: Saturday and Sunday 10–5pm  
By appointment only Monday through Friday  
To make an appointment contact Thomas Canavan at [canavan@fairplex.com](mailto:canavan@fairplex.com)



### ***SoCalMFA reflects an increasingly diversified portrait of emerging artists in L.A.***

This year's SoCalMFA organizers in conjunction with the Millard Sheets Art Center and Claremont Graduate University are pleased to announce its third and largest annual Southern California Masters of Fine Art exhibition. Juried by curator Howard N. Fox, the exhibit captures forty-two artists representing seventeen Southern California MFA programs in media that includes painting, fabric, sculpture, video, photography, installation, drawing, mixed-media, and more. Taken together, this exhibit is a barometer of the diverse critical and aesthetic concerns that will shape artistic production in Southern California for years to come. The exhibition also reflects Claremont's Graduate University's leadership as a center for artistic and cultural production in Southern California at the graduate level and Fairplex's dedication to community partnerships and creating experiential learning opportunities.

This year's SoCal MFA organizing team is made up of former and graduating Claremont Graduate University students Madeline Arnault, Chelsea Boxwell and Megan Kinney. The exhibition is the largest MFA exhibition in both number of works exhibited, and number of schools represented. The 2018 exhibition includes seventeen of eighteen eligible MFA programs in Southern California.

Since 2016, the SoCalMFA exhibit has called upon a guest juror to select works and curate, beginning with Steve Comba (2016), Amanda Ross-Ho (2017), and this year



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Howard N. Fox, an independent curator and former Curator of Contemporary Art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA).

We invite the public to explore this exhibition's complex perspectives and overlapping themes and invite you to attend the exhibit's opening reception on Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, from 2-6 p.m.

Accompanying the exhibition will be a public panel led by CGU Art Professor and LA Times art critic David Pagel. The panel will be free and open to the public and will address the culture of the MFA program. Selected artists from the exhibition will join Pagel in this discussion with a Q+A session from the audience. Dates and times will be posted on the Fairplex website and SoCalMFA's Facebook Page. Please stay tuned for more information.

**Participating artists:** Madeline Arnault (Claremont Graduate University), Diego Barrientos (Cal Arts), Aurora Berger (Claremont Graduate University), Deitra Charles (Claremont Graduate University), Patricia Chow (Claremont Graduate University), Ji Soo Chung (UCLA), Carey Coleman (UCLA), Remi Dalton (Cal State San Diego), Yubo Dong (UC Irvine), Stevan Dupas (Cal State Long Beach), Jenny Eisenpresser (Art Center College of Design), Samantha Fitzmorris (Claremont Graduate University), Leslie Frank (Claremont Graduate University), Joshua Freeman (Azusa Pacific University), Molly Gabbard (Cal State San Diego), Eleanor Greer (Cal State San Diego), Timothy Haerens (Cal State San Bernardino), Harrison Halaska (Laguna College of Art and Design), Allison Holland (Cal State Fullerton), Lucy Holtsnider (UC Santa Barbara), Anna Laleggio (UC Irvine), Chloe Jeongmyo Kim (Otis College of Art and Design), Aleya Lanteigne (Cal State San Diego), Jian Liang (Claremont Graduate University), Jane Margarete (UCLA), Michelle Nunes (Cal State Northridge), Shane McClatchey (Laguna College of Art and Design), Moses Muturi (Cal State San Diego), Aydinaneth Ortiz (Cal Arts), Joshua Rains (University of Southern California), Rebecca Rich (Claremont Graduate University), Celia Rocha (Otis College of Art and Design), Heather Roessler (Cal State San Bernardino), Cintia Segovia (Cal State Long Beach), Kamaria Shepherd (UCLA), Nicole Waszak (Cal State San Diego), Charisse Weston (UC Irvine), Amy Williams (Cal State Long Beach), Ji Hyun Won (University of California Riverside), Jonathan Yacoub (Claremont Graduate University), Zebulon Zang (UC San Diego), and Benjamin Zhao (Claremont Graduate University).

**Instagram:**

@socialmfa

Hosted by: @cgumfa, @claremontgraduateuniversity @millardsheetsartcenter

Location: @millardsheetsartcenter #millardsheetsartcenter

Curated by: Chelsea Boxwell, Megan Kinney & Madeline Arnault

@chelseabox\_art, @megzykin, & @madimaud

**Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/southerncaliforniaMFA/>



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<https://www.facebook.com/CGU-Art-158936100338/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/claremontgraduateuniversity/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/millardsheetsartcenter/>

#### **About Howard N. Fox**

from 1985 through 2008. Fox has organized numerous major exhibitions and authored their catalogues. Some of his exhibits include *Avant-Garde in the Eighties* (1987), *A Primal Spirit: Ten Contemporary Japanese Sculptors* (1990), *Lari Pittman* (1996), and *Eleanor Antin* (1999). Fox recently returned to LACMA as guest curator for the critically acclaimed survey exhibition *Playing with Fire: Paintings by Carlos Almaraz*.

#### **About David Pagel**

In addition to his position at CGU, Pagel is an adjunct curator at the Parrish Art Museum in Water Mill, New York. He also writes regularly for the *Los Angeles Times*. Since 1988, he has published reviews, features, and essays in *Artforum*, *Art in America*, *Flash Art*, *frieze*, and *Art Issues*, where he was reviews editor from 1998 to 2001.

#### **About CGU Art and the School of Arts and Humanities**

The School of Arts & Humanities is home to a unique approach to graduate education, offering students the opportunity to study in and across disciplines as they “follow the problem.” Our research and teaching transcend academic boundaries and disregard the artificial divides between theory and application. Intimate seminar-style classes mean you’ll build close working relationships with faculty-mentors, who in turn will help you thrive academically and launch meaningful careers.

#### **About Fairplex and the Millard Sheets Art Center**

Through our exhibitions, educational programs, events and workshops, the Millard Sheets Art Center provides the community with meaningful experiences within the world of visual arts. As part of The Learning Centers at Fairplex, we engage the community at multiple levels of education and our exhibitions promote the rich and diverse cultures that lie within LA County and Southern California. Fairplex is an educational and entertainment complex that is home to the LA County Fair and 500 year-round events.