

ICA

**Institute of
Contemporary Art
San José**

Updates on Exhibitions & Programs and Strategic Planning

August 19, 2024



Institute of Contemporary Art San José

Founded in 1980, the ICA is a vital member of the many arts groups that make up the cultural fabric of San José, engaging audiences through innovative visual art exhibitions and public programs. Our exhibitions are designed to build community – to provide a space in which artists can access the resources needed to express their creative spirit and the public may experience a rich range of artistic expression.

In April 2006, the ICA made the ultimate commitment to downtown San José by purchasing a 7,500-square-foot building located at 560 South First Street. With the opening of our new facility in June 2007, we greatly expanded our programming.



ICA

Institute of
Contemporary Art
San José

Exhibitions & Programs

2024

Exhibitions that closed in February...

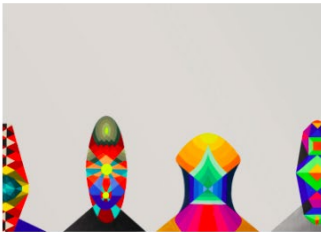


Heesoo Kwon, Leymusoom Garden: Following Naked Dancing and Long Dreaming

September 16, 2023 - February 18, 2024

[READ MORE](#)

- Traveled to Seoul, Korea



Adia Millett, Wisdom Keepers

September 16, 2023 - February 18, 2024

[READ MORE](#)

- In partnership with UC Berkeley's Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archives (BAMPFA)



San José.STL

October 6, 2023 - February 18, 2024

[READ MORE](#)

[Screenshot](#)

- In partnership with SJSU Professor Yoon Chung Han, SJMA and Chopsticks Alley Art

PLACE: *Reckonings by Asian American Artists*

PLACE: *Reckonings by Asian American Artists* (March 23, 2024 – August 11, 2024) explored what it means to define and claim one's identity as an Asian and an American.

Offsite programs at Montalvo Arts Center,
Saratoga, CA:

June 27th Film Screening

August 11th Symposium



Wanxin Zhang. *Excavated Dumpling Platters in 2203* (2023). Paint, plywood, sawhorses, eight high fired stoneware plates, eight teacups, eight cell phones, cargo ship containers, and 500 dumplings

Highlights

- Record breaking opening
- Book Project launch
- Heesoo's *Leymusoom Garden* work in Seoul and Amsterdam
- Received a certificate of excellence from the city of Saratoga and had congresswoman Zoe Lofgren Attend



FALL 2024

Allegedly the worst is behind us

September 14, 2024 - February 16, 2025

The artists in ***allegedly the worst is behind us*** work to *mend* and *amend* the past in reckonings with memories, records, and archives, acting as both revisionists and storytellers. Drawing from their own family lineages and cultural backgrounds, in many cases lost or ruptured through forced relocation or removal, each artist explores what it means to be a living archive, carrying previous generations' experience into the present.

Through investigations in installation, painting, and video, they affirm the importance of art in keeping and questioning history—creating not mythic pasts but active practices for considering what stories need to be told, and, even rewritten.



Trina Michelle Robinson, *Liberation Through Redaction*, 2022. Photopolymer intaglio print, ink made with soil collected from Senegal, charred cedar, bone black dry pigment, sisal dyed with hibiscus from Senegal, raw cotton paper sourced from a Black-owned farm in North Carolina

Allegedly the worst is behind us

September 14, 2024 - February 16, 2025

In the exhibition, past knowledge and future imagination meld in the hands of living artists who show us how re-examinations of history can offer insight towards the radical changes needed for today.

The exhibition prompts the questions: What does it mean to inhabit a fraught or silenced history? How do we critically analyze and reconstruct historical narratives while caring and tending to our communities? How can reflecting on the past create spaces of liberation for the future?



Demetri Broxton, *I'm on a Mission*, 2022. Venum boxing gloves, cowrie shells, Japanese & Czech seed beads, red bamboo coral, tourmaline, quartz, nylon thread, stainless steel chain & hardware

Allegedly the worst is behind us

Current Participating Artists:

- Pantea Karimi
- Tricia Rainwater
- Arleene Correa Valencia
- Trina Michelle Robinson
- Shirin Towfiq
- Demetri Broxton
- Suchitra Mattai
- Paolo De Calle
- Razan al-salah
- Livien Yin



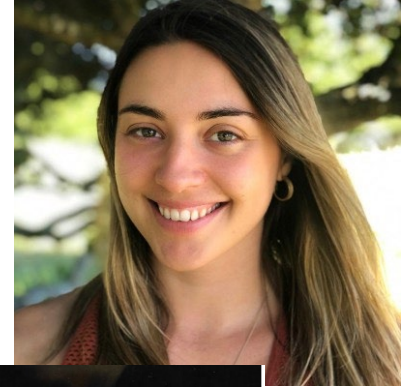
Tricia Rainwater, *re.com.pose*, 2019. Frame by Oaksmith Furniture.

Allegedly the worst is behind us

CONTEXT & PARTNERSHIPS:

Curated by Zoë Latzer (SJICA), the exhibition will also be happening during a season of active, civic-minded partner programs with arts organizations across the region, including: CatchLight; Chopsticks Alley Art; CreaTV; Institute for Diversity in the Arts (IDA), Stanford University; LEAD Filipino; Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana (MACLA); San José State University; and others.

Partnerships are in the way to be discussed with the **Tamien Nation**. The Tamien Nation enrolled Tribal citizens have direct lineages to precontact villages of the Greater Santa Clara Valley including the Ritocsi village (AKA San Juan Cupertino Rancheria - Mountain View, Sunnyvale and Cupertino) San Juan Bautista Rancheria (Upper Guadalupe River to Central Coyote Creek), San Antonio Rancheria (east San Jose to Coyote Valley), Santa Clara Rancheria (site of Mission Santa Clara/University of Santa Clara), and San Francisco Solano Rancheria (site of Mission San Jose in Fremont).



Related Programs Fall 2024

- Opening Indigenous Drumming circle
- Limited edition Exhibition Catalog
- Performance by The Brush Arbor Gurlz Indigenous Drag Show
 - The Brush Arbor Gurlz celebrate 20 years of Indigenous Drag in San Francisco celebrating with Two Spirit and Indigiqueer Drag Artists from across Turtle Island for our 4th Annual Two-Spirit Indigiqueer Drag Show.
- Artist Talks
 - Contemporary Iranian Artists perspectives, Shirin Towfiq and Pantea Karimi
 - Land and Ancestry: Tricia Rainwater and Trina Michelle Robinson, moderated by Renee Cyla Villasenor
 - Mohawk Seedkeeper Rown White: Rematriation: Restory-ing the land through centering indigenous relationships
- Public art workshops
 - Clothing Swap and Sewing workshops: mending clothing
 - Collage Workshops: collaging photographs and images from one's own family archives
 - Papermaking workshops with Trina Michelle Robinson

“Ship’s Manifest” by Amanda Gorman

Allegedly the worst is behind us.
Still, we crouch before the lip of tomorrow,
Halting like a headless hant in our own house,
Waiting to remember exactly
What it is we're supposed to be doing.
& what exactly are we supposed to be doing?
Penning a letter to the world as a daughter of it.
We are writing with vanishing meaning,
Our words water dragging down a windshield.
The poet's diagnosis is that what we have lived
Has already warped itself into a fever dream,
The contours of its shape stripped from the murky
mind.

To be accountable we must render an account:
Not what was said, but what was meant.
Not the fact, but what was felt.
What was known, even while unnamed.
Our greatest test will be Our testimony.

This book is a message in a bottle.
This book is a letter.
This book does not let up.
This book is awake.
This book is a wake.
For what is a record but a reckoning?
The capsule captured?
A repository,
An ark articulated?
& the poet, the preserver
Of ghosts & gains,
Our demons & dreams,
Our haunts & hopes.
Here's to the preservation
Of a light so terrible.



Arlene Correa Valencia, *Tu Eres La Luz/ You Are The Light*, 2021.
Repurposed textiles on black canvas.
62 x 59

Future Democracies Laboratory

Future Democracies Laboratory is a large-scale installation that seeks to reinvent the United States government as an automated decision engine.

This interactive installation – which will be reconfigurable to represent alternative political systems imagined by visitors – will be shown together with technologies for automatically measuring the emotional state of the electorate – correlating rising stress with political discontentment – in order to calibrate the machine in real time.

Online program: Activist Artists

Tuesday evening August 6: John Ifcher (SCU), Michele Pred and Lena Wolff



In the "photosynthetic restaurant" created by Jonathon Keats at the Crocker Art Museum in Sacramento, CA, foliage feasted upon sunlight that was filtered through red-, yellow- and blue-colored panels. | Jonathon Keats

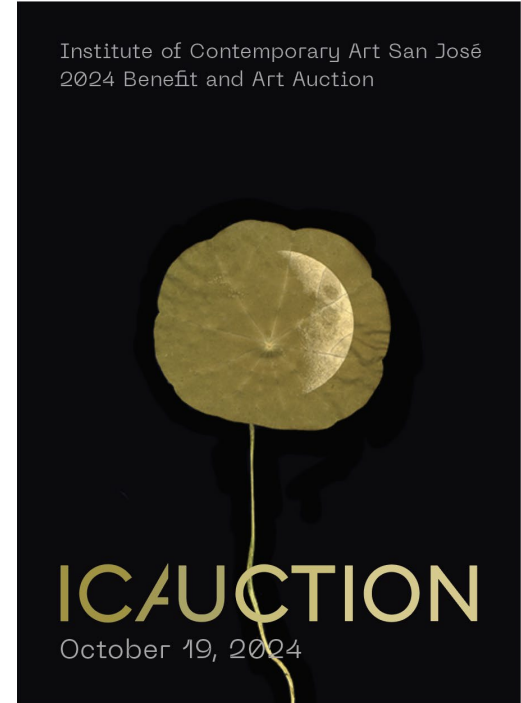
ICA San José Benefit and Art Auction

**ICA Benefit & Art Auction
In tribute to Binh Danh**

**Saturday evening
October 19, 2024**

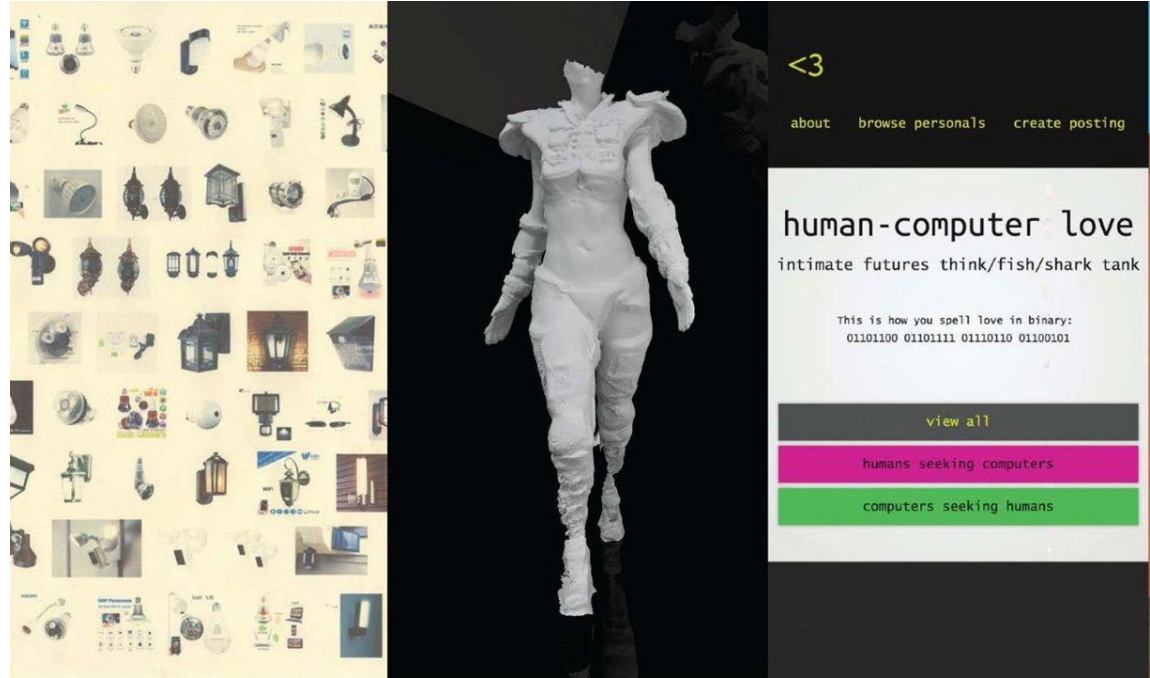


**Opening Artists Mixer and Talk
September 26 2024**



Spring 2025 CADRE & SJSU

Furthering our collaboration with other institutions we are working on a group exhibition with the CADRE (**Computers in Art, Design, Research, and Education**) program from SJSU. Faculty and students have participated in the evolution of art and technology for over 30 years.



FALL 2025

Stephanie Dinkins

This experimental art project aims to create a bacterial archive for self-determined, multigenerational oral histories. The goal is to combine oral histories, machine learning (AI), and DNA data storage to create a computationally amalgamated community history to be stored in the very land (soil and trees) we, especially the imported and contemporary seekers of refuge who are not always welcomed where they live (or have trouble finding solid ground to build lives upon), inhabit. The idea is to pique curiosity and make complicated technologies, processes, and systems visible and perhaps accessible as a catalyst for thought and exploration about the possibilities for care and nurturing AI and other emerging technologies hold.





“Secret Garden,” Stephanie Dinkins, Three-channel video installation — projectors, interactive 6 channel audio system, depth cameras, computers, 2021/Stamps Gallery



Stephanie Dinkins, Not the Only One (N'TOO), exhibition view, courtesy of the Museum of Contemporary Photography.

ICA

Institute of
Contemporary Art
San José

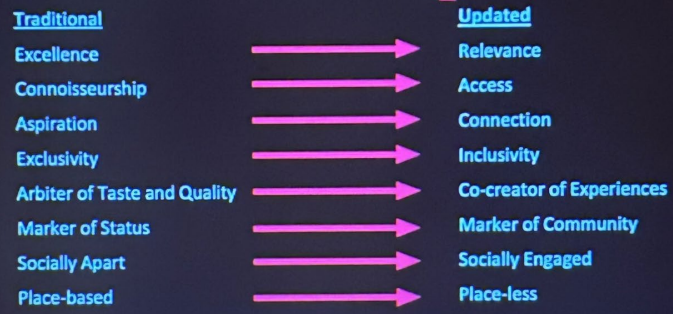
Notes on Planning



MISSION: We believe art makes life meaningful and connects people and communities. The ICA San José is committed to serving San José and the greater Bay Area by providing a free, safe and welcoming place for all and supporting artists as valued thinkers, storytellers and creators.

Process Metrics

What is Expected of Arts Organizations Now?



© LaPine/Cohen 2024

Curators Conference

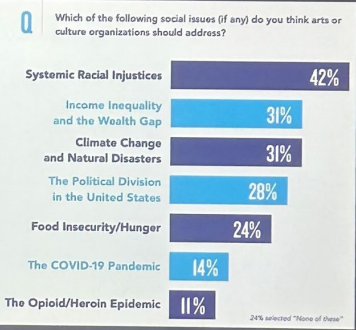
DEIA

What Role Should Arts Organizations Play in Social Justice?

What Matters Most

Most respondents feel arts organizations have a responsibility to tackle social issues, with systemic racism being the top priority.

76% identified one or more social issues they believe arts or culture organizations should address



© LaPine/Cohen 2024

Source: Culture + Community in a Time of Transformation: A Special Edition of Culture Track

4 Art Curators Conference

#artcurat

ICA

Institute of
Contemporary Art
San José

GRATITUDE

Funding

Participation

Ease of permits, etc.

ICA

Institute of
Contemporary Art
San José

Where we need help

Awareness & messaging

Leadership recruitment