Subject to Changes

Join the Palo Alto Art Center for an exciting Southern California art trip, anchored by the two major West Coast contemporary art exhibitions of the year: *Made in LA* at the Hammer Museum and the *California Biennial* at the Orange County Museum of Art. This unique trip will allow participants an opportunity to dive deep into the arts ecosystem of Southern California, learning more about the collectors, artists, and art institutions that make the Southern part of our state such an epicenter for contemporary art and culture. You won't want to miss this chance to see LA in a whole new way!

We will start in the often-overlooked Inland Empire, visiting "The Cheech" (the Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art and Culture) and learning more about how Cheech Marin channeled his celebrity and identity into a distinctive and impressive art collection and his partnership with the City of Riverside to make his stunning namesake museum possible. We will then head to Costa Mesa, enjoying Isamu Noguchi's *California Scenario* sculpture garden, along with some lunch and shopping at the Southcoast Plaza before our guided visit to the *California Biennial*. This exhibition promises some familiar artists (including Woody De Othello, who will be included in the Art Center's fall *Pushing Boundaries* exhibition) and many surprises.

Historic Casa Loma in Laguna Beach will be our first home base, offering stunning views of the rocky cliffs, golden sands, and shimmering ocean. We'll learn firsthand about the historic role of Laguna Beach as an enclave for artists, eccentrics, surfers, and bohemians. We'll have a chance to see plein air painters at work, taking advantage of the unique light of the region, through the local plein air invitational. The charming Laguna Art Museum will be next on our itinerary, followed by a visit to the brand new Hilbert Museum on the campus of Chapman College–both institutions highlight unique approaches to exhibiting and collecting California art. Macarthur genius award winning artist Elizabeth Turk will invite us into her studio, to explore her elegant marble sculptures and learn more about her participatory art events.

We will spend our next day in the Westwood section of Los Angeles, exploring the *Made in LA* exhibition at the Hammer Museum. This exhibition always delights and surprises, providing a new look into the work of the most important artists working in Los Angeles. We'll dine in the museum courtyard, then head to the UCLA campus for an exclusive set of studio visits with their MFA students, followed by an informal dinner. The UCLA MFA program remains one of the most important art practice graduate programs in the country. We'll have a chance to meet the emerging talent in this program, visiting studios and learning more about their work. In the process, we will meet visiting artist Asher Hartman, on campus for an evening lecture.

Our next home base is at the well-appointed Omni Hotel in the heart of downtown. From there, we will head to some of the region's most important art galleries in the downtown area, in Hollywood, and in Culver City. We will also visit LA's arts district, ending our day at the Los

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Angeles Hauser + Wirth location (note they are planning to open a new location in Palo Alto next year) with a dinner at their courtyard restaurant Maneula.

Heading next to Exposition Park, we'll visit the Natural History Museum, to learn how staff updated their classic dioramas, as well as how those displays have provided inspiration to contemporary artists.The California African American Museum is next on our itinerary, along with a studio visit with sculptor Vincent Poscik.

Our trip ends with a visit to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, where we will visit one of the most anticipated exhibitions of the year, a solo show by conceptual artist Tavares Strachen, with time to explore their other temporary exhibitions and collection galleries.

Along the way, we will dine at some of the top 100 LA Times restaurants, including beloved local favorites in Laguna Beach and artful spots Lulu at the Hammer and Manuela at Hauser + Wirth in Los Angeles. On our visit to Exposition Park, we'll visit Mercado La Paloma for authentic and Michelin-rated Mexican seafood restaurant Holbox. Throughout the trip, we will travel by comfortable coach.

Sign up here: https://forms.gle/8mc4agr5T5Gc2sc7A