

**07  
SEPT**

**2019**

**FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND EXPRESSION**



Angel Delgado	Beata Pozniak
Andre Ajibade	Li Zhu
Sinan Leong Revell	Judy Lue
David Liao	Madeline Hernandez
Liz Convigton	Mariah Green
Chen Weiming	Stacey Gregory
Fong So	Chiho Harazaki
Labbie Manesh	Rachel Hebert/Kate Nicholson
Bing Weng	Dorit Jordan
Charles Sherman	Antwon Key
Meridith McNeal	Eliza Ortega
Edgar Heap of Birds	Ulises Rodriguez
Lily Honglei	Oree Originol
Shaomin Li	Nicole Jeffords
Hugo Ruggiero	Alex Currie
Ken Moore	Vivian Wenhuey Chen
Renee Amitai	Catherine Bauknight
Dillion Lin	Jared Fortunato
Diana Wong	Vojislav Radovanovic



**Artist Name:**  
Angel Delgado

**Country:**  
Cuba

Multidisciplinary Contemporary Artist. Lives and works in Long Beach, California. Studied at the University of the Arts in Havana, Cuba, 1984 – 1986; Graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts San Alejandro, Havana, Cuba in 1984. The work of Angel Delgado, goes around a point: the freedom of the individual or the lack of this, his artwork is based fundamentally on the limitations, restrictions, prohibitions, controls and lack of freedoms that are imposed on the human being within the society. Through keen observation of the everyday and the ordinary, Delgado is trying to transform those objects

or situations that are the daily step in photographs, drawings, videos, paintings, installations and performance, with a poetic that makes us reflect on our lives, about social processes or on the same processes of artistic creation.



**Absent Speech (IV) 2017 - Acrylic / Canvas - 59 x 65 in**



**Absent Speech (IV), 2017 - Acrylic / canvas - 59 x 65 in**



**Artist Name:**  
Angel Delgado

**Country:**  
Cuba



Multidisciplinary Contemporary Artist. Lives and works in Long Beach, California. Studied at the University of the Arts in Havana, Cuba, 1984 – 1986; Graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts San Alejandro, Havana, Cuba in 1984. The work of Angel Delgado, goes around a point: the freedom of the individual or the lack of this, his artwork is based fundamentally on the limitations, restrictions, prohibitions, controls and lack of freedoms that are imposed on the human being within the society. Through keen observation of the everyday and the ordinary, Delgado is trying to transform those objects or situations that are the daily step in photographs, drawings, videos, paintings, installations and performance, with a poetic that makes us reflect on our lives, about social processes or on the same processes vv of artistic creation.

**Absent Speech (VIII), 2017 - Acrylic / Canvas - TBD**



**Artist Name:**  
Andre Ajibade

**Country:**  
United States  
/ Nigeria

Andre Ajibade was born in Los Angeles, California, but spent his formative years in Nigeria, West Africa. He always liked to draw and color, especially sports figures, but as he grew up, he also gained a strong passion for history and culture. It's these themes that he depicts in his works today.

**Artist Statement:** "‘Black Lives Matter.’ This simple statement causes so much debate. Why does America, land of free and home of brave find it hard to say this? My work speaks to the historical injustice and inequality that African Americans have and still endure, but we still push on and through."



**Racial Injustice - Oil / Canvas - 60 x 48 in**



**The Murder of Philando Castillo Size - Oil /Canvas - 48 x 48 in**



**Artist Name:**  
Andre Ajibade

**Country:**  
United States  
/ Nigeria



Andre Ajibade was born in Los Angeles, California, but spent his formative years in Nigeria, West Africa. He always liked to draw and color, especially sports figures, but as he grew up, he also gained a strong passion for history and culture. It's these themes that he depicts in his works today.

**Artist Statement:** "‘Black Lives Matter.’ This simple statement causes so much debate. Why does America, land of free and home of brave find it hard to say this? My work speaks to the historical injustice and inequality that African Americans have and still endure, but we still push on and through."

**Standing for Something Greater - Oil / Canvas - 30 x 40 in**

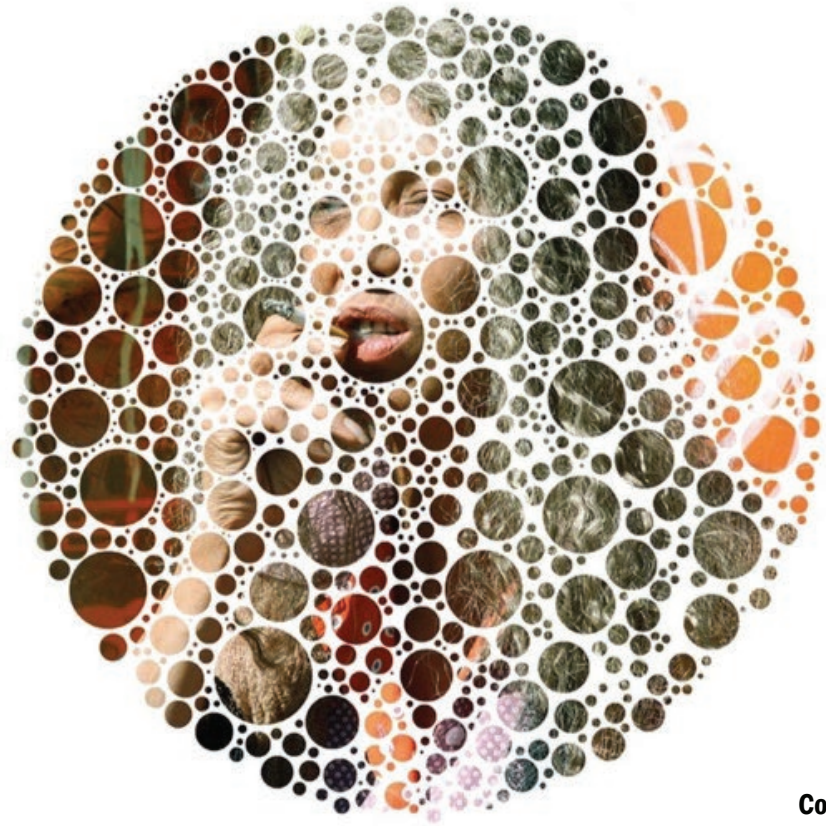


**Artist Name:**  
Sinan Revell

**Country:**  
China /  
Australia

Chinese-born and Australian-raised, Sinan Revell is a brilliant and multi-disciplined artist whose works encompass fine, conceptual and performance art. Revell graduated with a degree in Psychology from Sydney University, Australia, and later studied art at the Julian Ashton Art School in Sydney. Her love of the performing arts led her to study drama with renowned Aboriginal teacher, Bryan Syron, and to several TV and film roles. Additionally, Revell spent several years as a performing and recording artist and band member with the avant-garde industrial rock group, SPK, touring the world. After moving to Los Angeles in 1991, Revell returned to art

making and also furthered her studies with Renee Amitai in California. She began working in various media and performance art. Revell's work has been exhibited in London, Australia, France as well as many galleries in Los Angeles. She currently lives and works in Los Angeles. During career as a painter, she has explored the diverse media of oils, ink and watercolors, even creating jewelry and ceramic works, such as her strange ceramic shoes that draw from her Chinese heritage. Revell explains, "The clay shoes are symbolic of the bound foot silk shoes that were unwearable except for the maiming of the wearer. The first Cinderella was Chinese."



**Colour Blind**  
Size: TBA  
Medium: TBA



**Artist Name:**

David Liao

**Country:**

China /  
United States

David Liao is born in Sichuan province in 1952. He graduated from Sichuan Fine Arts Institute in 1977. He used to be a member of China Artists Association. He focused on studying the Renaissance painting, politics, economy, military affairs, science, technology and literature art while he worked for the municipal government. He has created more than 200 large oil paintings and participated in several oil painting exhibitions and won awards. Due to different political opinions, Liao was arrested by the Chinese state security bureau in 1999. He was sentenced to jail for 8 years for subversion by the

intermediate people's court. After he was released he joined USA CHINA culture exchange program in 2016 and escaped successfully to the USA from mainland China in 2017. Liao is New York resident now.



**Remembering Tiananmen - Oil / Canvas 108 x 79 in**



**Chinese Citizen A - Oil / Canvas - 10 x 11 in**



**Artist Name:**  
Liz Convigton

**Country:**  
United States

From the Artist: "A Minnesota native, I've been painting since 2009 segueing into watercolor to decorate my calligraphy. After numerous awards and honors a framer once told me 'I was in the wrong business' and needed to paint full time. I am presently a private practice family physician which has given me much inspiration and local support from patients, staff and colleagues. My art education has consisted of adult extension classes and workshops from nationally acclaimed teachers such as Stephen Quiller, Debbie Abshear, Debbie Swan-McDonald, Vickie Myers, Tom Fong, Judy Shroeder, Joe Cibere

and Brenda Swenson. I have won numerous awards and honors, some monetary and including best in show from the El Segundo Art Association and the Pacific Art Guild in 2016 and 2017."



**By Any Means Necessary - Watercolor - 119 x 15 in**

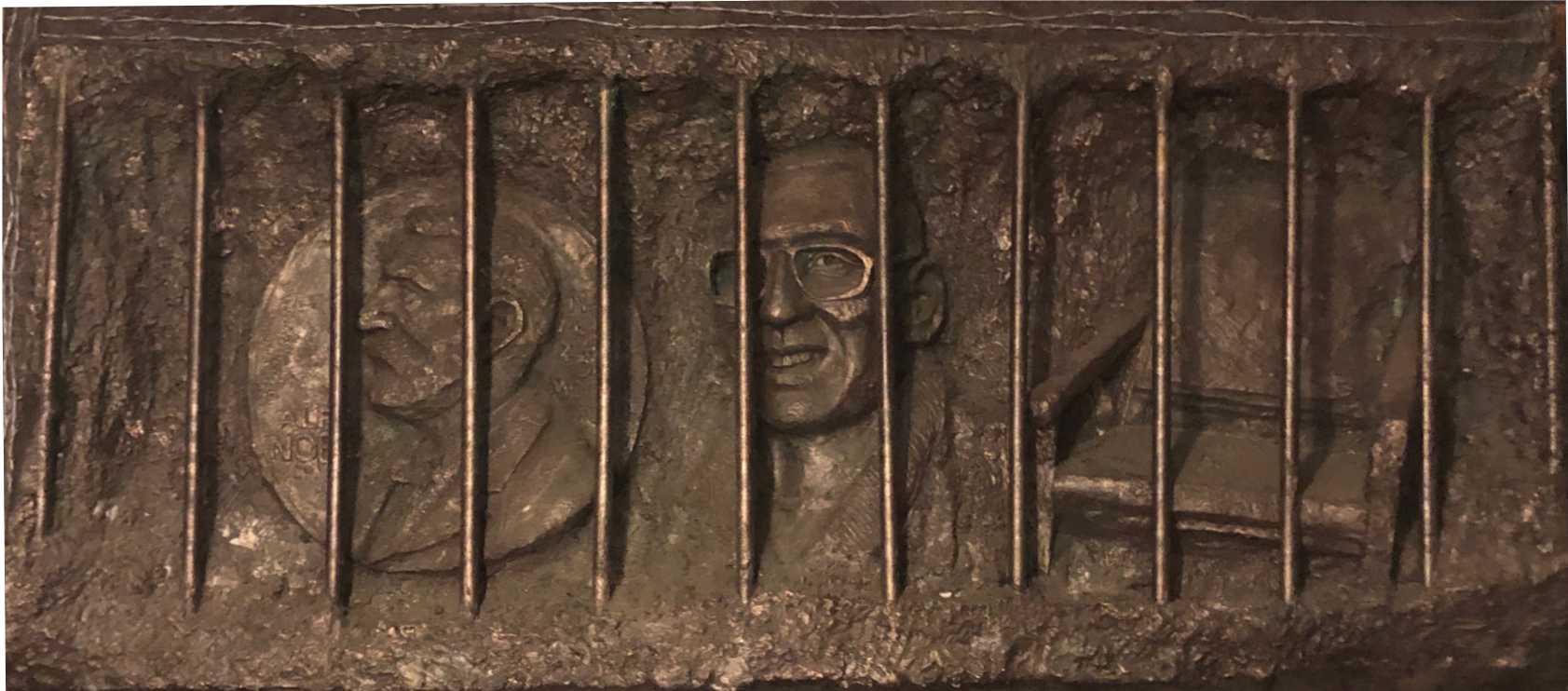


**Artist Name:**  
Chen Weiming

**Country:**  
New Zealand /  
United States

CHEN Weiming, born in Hangzhou, China, Well-known sculptor and newspaper publisher. Permanent resident of the United States, citizen of New Zealand. Graduated from the Central Arts and Crafts College major in Special Arts and Crafts Decorated Sculpture in Beijing. When worked in City Sculptures Studio of Hangzhou City, designed and made a lot of large-scale city sculptures, such as Sprinkler Statues in Wulin Square, Statues of Qingtai Cloverleaf Junction, Relief in front of Chinese-Japan Amity Hotel. A dozen of the large-scale city sculptures of Chen were exhibited in Beijing, Zhejiang,

Anhui and Jiangsu. Chen was commissioned by the New Zealand government to create a 3-meter bronze statue of Edmund Hillary in 1991. In 2008, he created a 6.4 meters high replica of the Goddess of Democracy that currently stands in the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Chen created a large-scale relief representation of the Tiananmen massacre in 2009, on the 20th anniversary of the massacre. The Tiananmen massacre relief and the Goddess of Democracy replica were both displayed in Hong Kong during protests in 2010.



**Liu Xiaobo - Acrylic Paint / Fiber Glass, Mixed Media**  
Size: TBA



**Artist Name:** Fong So is a journalist-turned artist living and working in Hong Kong. He was an editor of a current affairs magazine before turning to art. Despite his training in traditional Chinese painting and the media of brush and ink, both the content and the genre of his work are obviously different from those of traditional Chinese painting. He also works with woodcut prints. His works have been exhibited in Hong Kong, South Korea, the UK and the

USA. He has works in the collections of the Hong Kong Museum of Art, the Gwangju Art Museum in South Korea, and the British Museum in London.



**Feeling Bothered 2017 - Printmaking / Paper - 64 x 89**

**A New Generation 2017 - Printmaking / Paper 61 x 91**



**Artist Name:**

Labbie  
Manesh

**Country:**

Iran

Labbie Manesh navigated her Iranian childhood seeking refuge from the Islamic Revolution era and the ruinous Iran-Iraq War. As a young teen, she found emotional asylum from the erratic political climate through painting and sculpting projects. In college, Labbie's emerging experimental style buttressed against the aesthetic orthodoxy of her art professors, causing her to pursue a new medium—photojournalism. She began to craft photo essays into intimate and compelling stories about her subjects and herself. It was this medium that allowed her to be extensively articulate and deeply passionate

about her work. Labbie's photography has exhibited in five countries, and she has been awarded high honors from several institutions, including the International Society of Photographers (Second Place, 2006) and LensCulture (Jurors' Pick, 2018). Her work explores themes of oppression, specifically those centering around race and gender, and how those motifs undermine American and Iranian societies.



**Baby Maybe (Series) - Digital Prints or Projected Images - 16 x 20 in, each**



**Artist Name:**

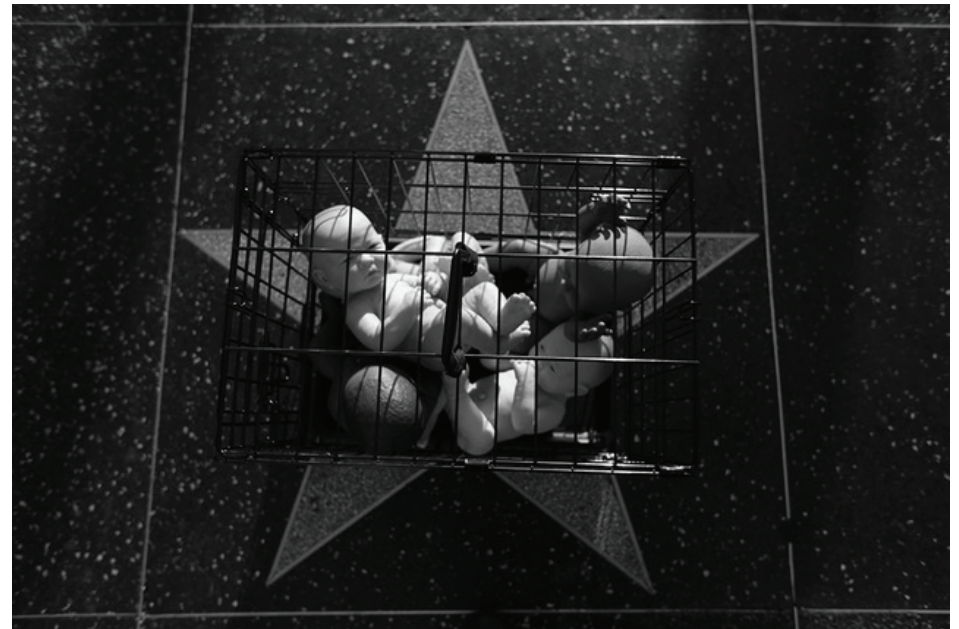
Labbie  
Manesh

**Country:**

Iran

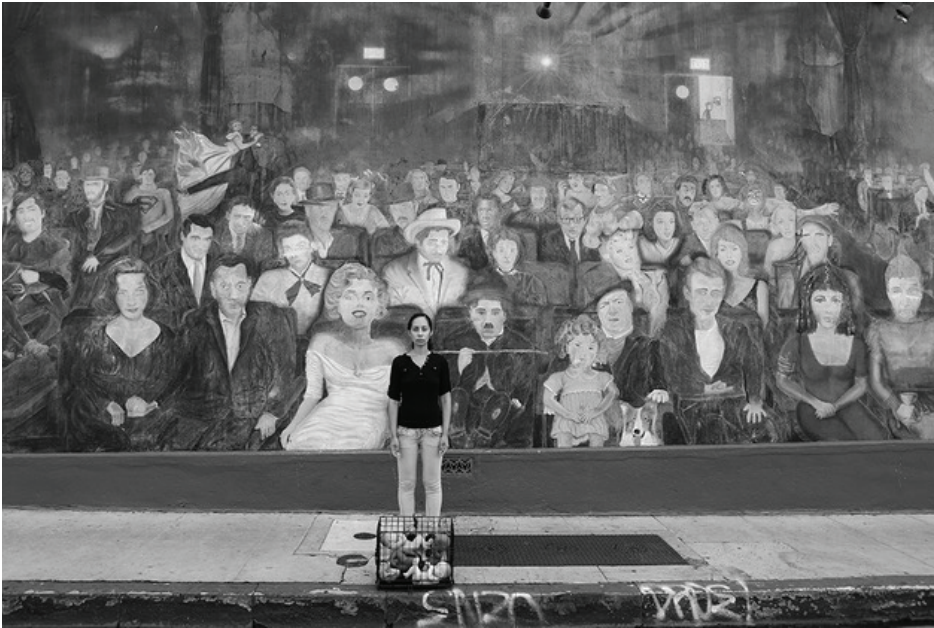
About the Series: "Baby-Maybe is an ongoing artist collaboration project conceived to cover social, personal, and ecological issues through the medium of street photography. I made a decision a long time ago to not have children. As an immigrant from a war-torn country, having children was a luxury that completely contradicted civilization's inability to care for those that were already here. When I finally made it to Los Angeles I saw that city of almost 4 million people also faced hardships that I was familiar with. But the one that is most devastating is a forced separation from a parent. My project centers

around this recent phenomena of immigrant children being jailed and forced to exist in the immigration bureaucracy without knowing if they will ever see there parents again. I want to make a statement about this tragedy by placing one or more of my plastic photography baby dolls in a small hand made cage and travel with them around Los Angeles in a variety of social settings to examine and photograph peoples reactions and ideas about this direction our administration is taking. With still photography, My goal is to capture the raw emotion behind these children's struggle."





**Art & Democracy VI  
Selected Artists**





**Artist Name:**  
Bing Weng

**Country:**  
United States  
/ China

From the Artist: "It happens frequently that you hear someone in China telling you: There are so many people in China that dictatorship is the only effective way to keep the country organized. The ruler of an autocratic government can always hoodwink the public. People in the darkness are often not even aware of this and live as if intoxicated. While staying awakened myself, I also want to awake every Chinese by this painting. I wish that everyone can become aware of this situation, get united, fight against dictatorship and fight for freedom and dignity.

I also would like to tell the world that do not let the Communist Party of China get control of Taiwan. Do not let this land of democracy vanish"



**Cover the Sky with One Hand, 2017 - Oil / Canvas - 17 x 19 in**



**Artist Name:**  
Bing Weng  
**Country:**  
United States  
/ China



**Marsh 2019 - Oil / Canvas - 38 x 57 in**



**Proof of One's Guilt 2018 - Oil / Wood - 15 x 28 in**



**Artist Name:**

Charles  
Sherman

**Country:**

United States



From The Artist: “My sculpture expresses the concept of infinity, especially the three-dimensional Möbius Ring. My sculptures are inspired by a lifelong study of ancient civilizations, world cultures and religions. The forms I create are minimalist, conceptual and inspired by sacred geometry. My variations on the infinity ring form symbolize the positive: love, abundance, healing and serenity. My intention is to elevate the spirit of the viewer.”

**About the Artwork:**

Opinion and protest are the life breath of democracy - even when it blows heavy. — Lyndon B. Johnson, 1966

“This quote from President Johnson would most likely be referring to freedoms found in the 1st Amendment. The 1st Amendment to the Constitution guarantees many things, but this quote refers to the rights of Freedom of Speech, Freedom of the Press, Freedom of Assembly, and the Freedom to Petition the government for a redress of grievances (complain or comment).”

**Breath of Democracy, 2017 - Ceramic / Copper and Iron Patina -  
18 x 18 x 4 in**



**Artist Name:**

Meridith  
McNeal

**Country:**

United States

**About the Series:** “Americans are familiar with an antiseptic Disney version of Carlo Collodi’s tale of Pinocchio. The original *Le Avventure di Pinocchio* is an ambling story told in serial format set in a poverty-stricken Tuscan village in the late 19th century. If you scratch the surface a bit, it chronicles the misadventures of a puppet who becomes a liar when subjected to the mistreatment of con-men and bullies. There are moments of redemption, and also many instances of things that just go badly wrong. This work is ultimately about the failure of the American judicial system.

In 2013 my brother was falsely accused and wrongfully convicted, our lives were quite desperately changed. We continue the infuriating process of fighting appeals for justice to this day. These are three of the series of works I have created in attempt to grapple with the corruption of the judicial system and the atrocities of false conviction.”



**The Judge was an Old Ape of the Gorilla Family, 2014 -**  
Ink, Watercolor / Paper - 55 x 65 in



**Keys to the Jail, 2013 - Ink / Paper - 44 x 48 in**



**Artist Name:**  
Meridith  
McNeal  
**Country:**  
United States



**The Guards, 2013 - Ink / Paper - 77 x 34 in**



**Dinner with Con Men, 2013 - Ink / Paper - 31 x 64 in**

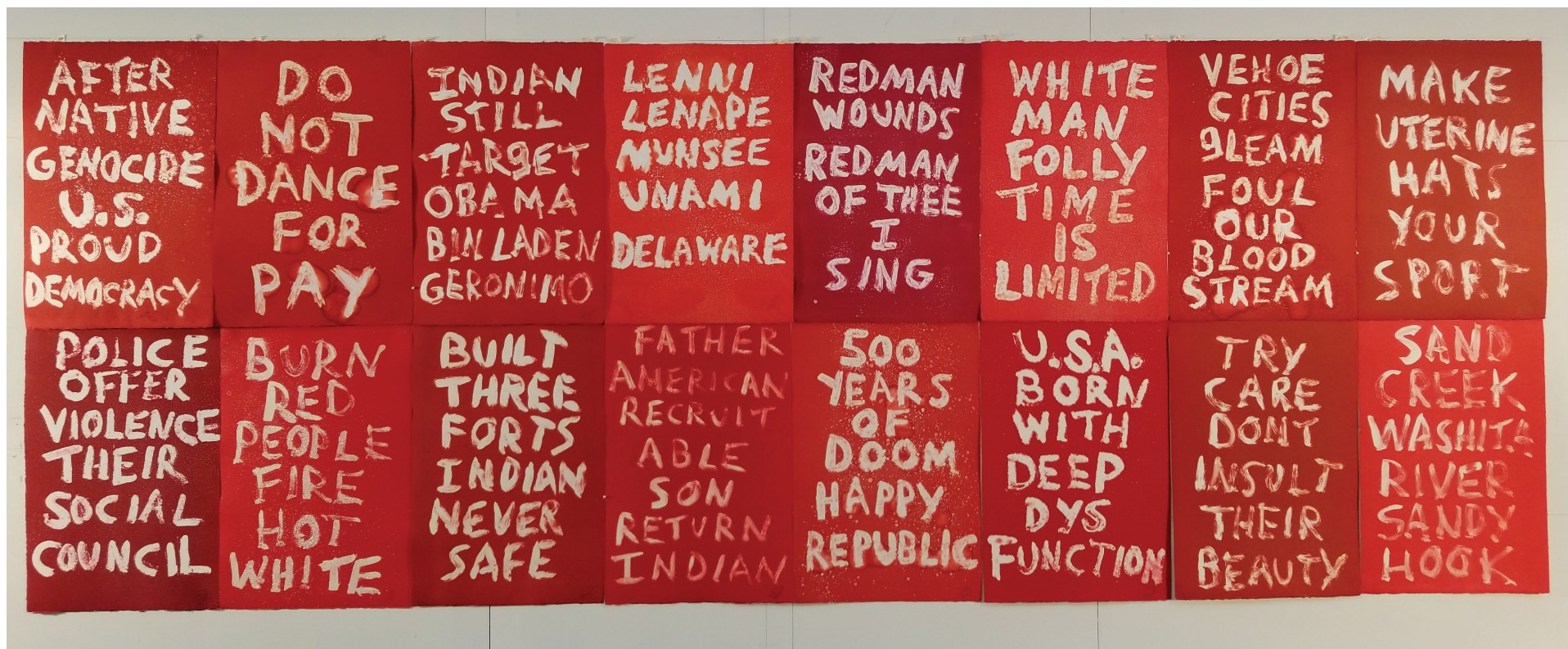


**Artist Name:**  
Edgar  
Heap of Birds

**Country:**  
Americas

**About the Series:** "Genocide and Democracy" The above phrase is the title for a printmaking project by visual artist and interventionist of history Edgar Heap of Birds. The project created text-based observations, in mono print form, of current life experiences, past survival of indigenous peoples and democratic dominant republics from the Americas. It has been found that perhaps 100 million indigenous lives were lost, throughout the Americas, due to so-called "Contact" with Euro colonizers.

Today these countless tribal communities struggle to recover from such genocide caused by war, violence, disease, depleted food sources and encroachment of urban society upon the sacred Native medicine natural and spirit world. "Genocide and Democracy" will illuminate the lack of standing indigenous communities hold in democratic systems because of low population numbers and broadly dispersed demographics that span across many states and provinces, due to Euro colonial violence.



**Genocide and Democracy, 2015-18 - Mono-Prints - 120 x 44 in**

**Artist Name:**  
Lily Honglei  
**Country:**  
United States



About the Video: “Forbidden City”: Integrating the traditional Chinese paper cutting medium with digital animation techniques, Forbidden City evokes an air that is uniquely thought-provoking. The dynamics between the imagery and sentiments of the atmosphere call upon the audience to contemplate about the sociocultural position of the individual in contemporary China. The scene is set in the interior of an antique tea-house near the Forbidden City in Beijing, where a cup of tea casts its mist into sun-lit space. A window serves as a major element both in the visual composition and in the poetic construction of the work; it is a metaphor of the boundary between one’s social surroundings and introspective world. The nearest panel is adorned with an inversed Prosperity ideogram, a popular traditional Chinese decorative motif that calls for and celebrates golden times. This emblem of optimism, however, proves itself to be no more than a flimsy facade. As serene as the atmosphere appears to be, a less veneer and much grimmer layer of reality is revealed when the ideogram falls apart.

Towards the end of the film, the blood-red substance left from the calamitous vision becomes condensed into steam once again while the Prosperity motif is set back in place. An apparent tranquility reigns over the setting once more and the unnerving truth is removed from sight.

An ancient melody known as Guangling San by the great Chinese thinker and composer Ji Kang is heard throughout the course of the film.

**Forbidden City - Animation / Video - TBD**



**Artist Name:**  
Lily Honglei

**Country:**  
United States



**Artist Name:**  
Shaomin Li

**Country:**  
United States  
/ China

**About the Artist:** Shaomin Li was trained in art during Mao Zedong's Cultural Revolution (1966-1976). When Mao died in 1976, he was ordered to paint a portrait of Mao for his funeral (shown in the photograph below). After Mao's death, universities re-opened and Li entered Peking University to study economics. He was later awarded a scholarship to study in America and received his Ph.D. from Princeton University and did his post-doctoral work at Harvard University. He is Eminent Scholar and Professor of International Business at Old Dominion University. His new book, Bribery and Corruption in Weak Insti-

tutional Environments, will be published by Cambridge University Press in the summer of 2019

**About the Artwork:**

"The Food Chain" depicts the relationship in bribery and corruption in a dictatorial society. Media: Clay

**Dimensions:** The set has 6-8 figurines. Each figurine is about 6"x3"x3". The exhibition area requirement: width 30" x height 10" x depth 20"



**The Food Chain - Clay - 30 x 10 x 20 in**



**Artist Name:**  
Hugo Ruggiero

**Country:**  
Argentina /  
United States

Born in Argentina, Hugo has resided in California for more than thirty years. He has a Psychology and Art degree applied to Advertising and Communication Media. He has been painting since a very early, Hugo's paintings represent a unique fusion of powerful energy of expressionism, intense personal symbolism. Pictorial, fluid and emotional components are of equal significance in his works. The main thing for him is the expression of fluid motion, reflection of the movement of internal energy. When asked to describe his work he replied, "I paint my Insides my guts, my feelings"

Review by Paola Trevisan Curator Trevisan International Art Ferrara Italy:  
Hugo's vibrant, intense, powerful art research together with his creative imaginary; add personal and unique inputs to any art exhibition. His singular abstract language where the interaction of spaces, forms and colors connection, create such rich and emotional results able to go beyond the physical limits of the canvas. The high level of his paintings are full of vitality and experimentation; multicolored yet harmonious patterns, freedom of thought, purity of expression and above all, free creative energy of art.



**Let's Share Our DNA - Acrylic / Canvas - 40 x 50 in**

**Artist Name:**

Ken Moore

**Country:**

United States



**Girl Getting Real, 2017 - Acrylic / Canvas - 18 x 24 inv**

**About the Artist:** While attending community college in Chicago, Moore was accepted to the Art Institute of Chicago and spent several semesters under the instruction of Ray Yoshida. Meanwhile with a family on the way, Moore began “working hard to be a promising young banker. It was suits and ties by day. By night it was all about painting and learning. It was both exhausting and invigorating.”

Being a passionate and knowledgeable enthusiast of Jazz, a Jazz & gourmet coffee bistro in the late 1990's, the Howling Monk. At the bistro, he produced hundreds of Jazz concerts. Although he chose not to exhibit his own work at Howling Monk, the venue was host to several other artist exhibitions.

Moore closed that business several years ago to dedicate himself exclusively to his painting and has found a wide and enthusiastic audience for his work through social media. His paintings are often like rich semi-Cubist mosaics landscapes – poignantly woven expressions of his personal experiences of being a black man in America; the culture, history, and myths of the African and African-American people; the African Diaspora; Jazz music and its creators; romantic love and his love of family. His palette is rich and colorfully multi-layered, or when the mood of the painting calls for it, consisting of more somber, subdued tones.

**About the Artwork:**

GIRL GETTING REAL may be seen as my expression of a young woman coming out of a state of submission in society into more vibrance and self-assertion.



## Art & Democracy VI Selected Artists

**Artist Name:**

Renee Amitai

**Country:**

France /  
United States



Renee Amitai graduated from l'Ecole des Beaux Arts de Paris, France and gained professional experiences in Fine Art and architecture, in France, Israel, Italy and America. Her artistic interest evolve from printmaking to painting, to sculpture, back and forth. She moved to the United States in 1984, taught Printmaking, painting and architecture. In San Antonio Texas and in Los Angeles California. She lives in Los Angeles, California USA and in Paris France. Her work is exhibited in California, in France, China, Japan, Korea and other countries. She is affiliated in Los Angeles to LOS ANGELES PRINT MAKING SOCIETY , to ARTCORE and other galleries both in Los Angeles and France.

(Above) **Like Your Neighbors** - Mixed Media / Etching - 18 x 28 in

**Artist Name:**

Dillion Lin

**Country:**

United States

/ China

Dillon Lin learning drawing and painting since his teens and been work for the professional art studio for more than 9 years in China and, currently resume his artistic life after immigrate to the US.



**Low-End Population, 2017 - Oil / Canvas - 50 x 40 in**



**Artist Name:**  
Beata Pozniak

**Country:**  
United States  
/ Poland



**About the Artist:** Beata Pozniak is a performance artist, filmmaker & human rights activist. Growing up in her native Poland during the Communist era, Beata immigrated to America and developed a career in film and television. Starring as Marina Oswald in Oliver Stone's JFK, Beata went on to work with George Lucas in the Young Indiana Jones Chronicles and also had roles on Melrose Place, Mad About You and Babylon 5. Through her art she explores the roles of women in society by combining traditions of theater with symbolism and surrealism. Pozniak's work often explores what it is to be a woman in today's world with recurring themes of women's rights, social justice and women's history. In 1994 Beata spearheaded the introduction of the first bill in the history of the U.S. Congress (H.J. Res. 316) to recognize International Women's Day in the United States

**About the Artwork:** Body Guard is dedicated to "The Comfort Women" This piece references the defenselessness and psychological terror felt by victims of mass rape such as the "Comfort Women" in Korea and China by the Imperial Japan during WWII, or more recently those in the camps of the Bosnian war. Mass rape was used as a weapon of war targeting women and girls of the opposition's ethnic group for physical and moral destruction. Throughout history rape has been used as an instrument of terror. Many mothers, daughters and sisters were forced to watch each other while serving men sometimes 40 times a day.

**The Comfort Women - Mixed Media - Size: TBA**

**Artist Name:**

Li Zhu

**Country:**

United States  
/ China

From the Artist: "I was born in Hangzhou, China and graduated from China Academy of Art. There, I received my Master's degree in art history, and a Bachelor's degree in art education. I have lived in 3 countries, but my favorite has been Southern California. In China, I was doomed to be a 'criminal's' daughter, just because my father is a dissident. My father is a great artist, a excellent writer, a democratic fighter, but he suffered injustice badly, he was put into prison for over 16 years, and my family was searched and confiscated for numerous times. Since I was a child, I was derided, marginalized at school. I always feel helplessness

confusion, that I have to bear the misery of living in constant fear of my life. Fortunately, with the help of many kind people who were concerned my family, this year, I finally came Southern California, came to the land of freedom. Since then, I have been told that my father is a hero. I gave a speech about my family, completed a democratic activity and was interviewed by the media without fear. In California, there is no threat to my family, I am no longer under surveillance of the Chinese government. In here, freedom of religious beliefs are respected and protected, and I was baptized and became a Christian."



**Phoenix - Water Color / Paper - 10 x 13 in**



**Artist Name:**  
Judy Lue  
**Country:**  
United States



About the Artwork: Ice is cold, and powerful when in volume, it could destroy lives, stops time for what is buried underneath, it takes efforts, perseverance and time to bring justice to light. As a Catholic-school-educated Zen practitioner and abi-culture immigrant, creating art is my attempt in making sense of global events.

**Justice, 2019** - Acrylic Box, Acrylic Ice Cubes, Clear Labels, Paper - 18 x 18 in

**Artist Name:**  
Madeline  
Hernandez

**Country:**  
United States



**About the Artwork:** This work, in relation to my current research, displays themes of women's rights and human rights. I hybridize fetishized body parts with animal parts that create absurd bodies. There is a strong focus on the fetishized breast. The breasts and other fetishized parts begin to lose context through repetition and quantity. For example, from the panel I Sing the Body Eclectic, presenter Emily Skidmore discusses the policing of breast feeding. The paintings challenge and mock the objectified body, and confront viewers with the psychological burden of inhabiting a highly sexualized form.

I am a young, female artist with a Hispanic background from San Antonio, Texas. I received my BFA in studio art from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton, Texas. I am currently reside in Lubbock, Texas where I am pursuing an MFA in painting."

**Voyeur, 2019 - Watercolor - 12 x 16 in**



**Artist Name:**  
Mariah Green  
**Country:**  
United States



**Origins of Cotton, 2018 - Acrylic - 24 x 36 in**

About the Artwork: My piece “Origins of Cotton” gives a visual to the 1951 poem by Langston Hughes titled “Harlem”. I interpreted the poem into a painting displaying the collective pains the African American diaspora shares. Systematic and social oppression affect the black community making dreams deferred, shrivel, and rot. “ORIGINS OF COTTON”, along with my body of work, aims to enact change in the art world and provide an example of self validation and creativity for African American dreamers.

What happens to a dream deferred? They shrivel, rot, and explode. Origins of Cotton express the state of the deferred African American dream. My identity and my art fight the state of being deferred. I translate my experiences, of being a young black woman, through the texture and objects relating to the African diaspora. I advocate for people of color to have their work be seen as valid and not looked at as “exotic” or otherized. Origins of Cotton speaks on the lack of representation in the eurocentric hegemony that dominates the art realm. This reflects in our daily lives when African Americans get treated lesser and have little room to be creative. I aim to change the art world as a gateway towards institutional and social change for African American dreamers.”

**Artist Name:**

Stacey  
Gregory

**Country:**

United States

**About the Artwork:** This work is a direct response to the Kavanaugh (and Thomas) hearings when it was clear to me that no progress had been made in the issues of victims' rights. The legal definition of CONSENT is on the periphery, while Themis, Goddess of Justice, is attacked and betrayed by her own justices."

**About the Artist:** Stacey Gregory is a multimedia conceptual who explores social and political issues that are on the verge of paradigm shifts. Born in CT, she graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and attended Pratt Institute studying graphic design. Her assemblages use recycled and re-purposed materials, referencing history, mythology, scientific evidence, and sometimes humor to address controversial subject matter. She has exhibited at, "Reflectivity: Artists on Climate Change" at HCA, "The Next Big Thing 2019" at SCIArts, and "National Juried Competition 2019" at Chico Art Center.



**The Rape of Themis, Goddess of Justice, 2018 - Acrylic and Oil / Wooden Barrel Top (that spins manually) - 24 x 38 in**



**Artist Name:**

Stacey  
Gregory

**Country:**

United States



**Under Pressure, 2018** - Acrylic on Wood Sphere, Fossilized Sand Dollars,  
Metal Base, Glass Bell Jar - 24" diameter 54" height

**About the Artwork:** The lasting effects of fossil fuel consumption and global warming are addressed on this wooden globe painted with climate change “hotspots”. As fossilized sand dollars representing diminishing fossil fuels are burned, temperatures rise shown on the graph lines on the bell jar, building pressure until the globe cracks. The corresponding decades are indicated on the wooden base that spins manually to show a timeline of irreversible damage ending in the year 2100.

**About the Artist:** Stacey Gregory is a multimedia conceptual who explores social and political issues that are on the verge of paradigm shifts. Born in CT, she graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and attended Pratt Institute studying graphic design. She now resides on the Monterey Peninsula. Her assemblages use recycled and re-purposed materials, referencing history, mythology, scientific evidence, and sometimes humor to address controversial subject matter. She has exhibited her work in numerous juried group shows throughout California, most recently at, “Reflectivity: Artists on Climate Change” at HCA, “The Next Big Thing 2019” at SCIArts, and “National Juried Competition 2019” at Chico Art Center.

## Art & Democracy VI Selected Artists

**Artist Name:**  
Chiho Harazaki

**Country:**  
United States  
/ Japan



**About the Artwork:** The United States has a long tradition of offering refuge sanctuary. However, shortly after Trump took office in 2017, he ordered the first executive to restrict immigration. The current administration enforced security concerns, put a travel ban, slashed refugee arrivals to their lowest levels ever, and separated desperate families. The “Door” indicates the borders as well as the entrance for hope. There is no knob and lock. No one should not close the door.

**About the Artist:** Chiho Harazaki grew up in Japan, and later moved to Los Angeles. Spending time with people from so many different cultures and backgrounds helped her to realize that there are many different ways to approach our lives and to view the world. Since discovering tape art in college, Harazaki has been fascinated by using adhesive tape for her art. Tiny pieces of tape, cut by precision knife and scissors, create each detail used to compose a whole picture. Harazaki’s subject matter includes a variety of cultural, historical, and narrative elements as well as social comment.

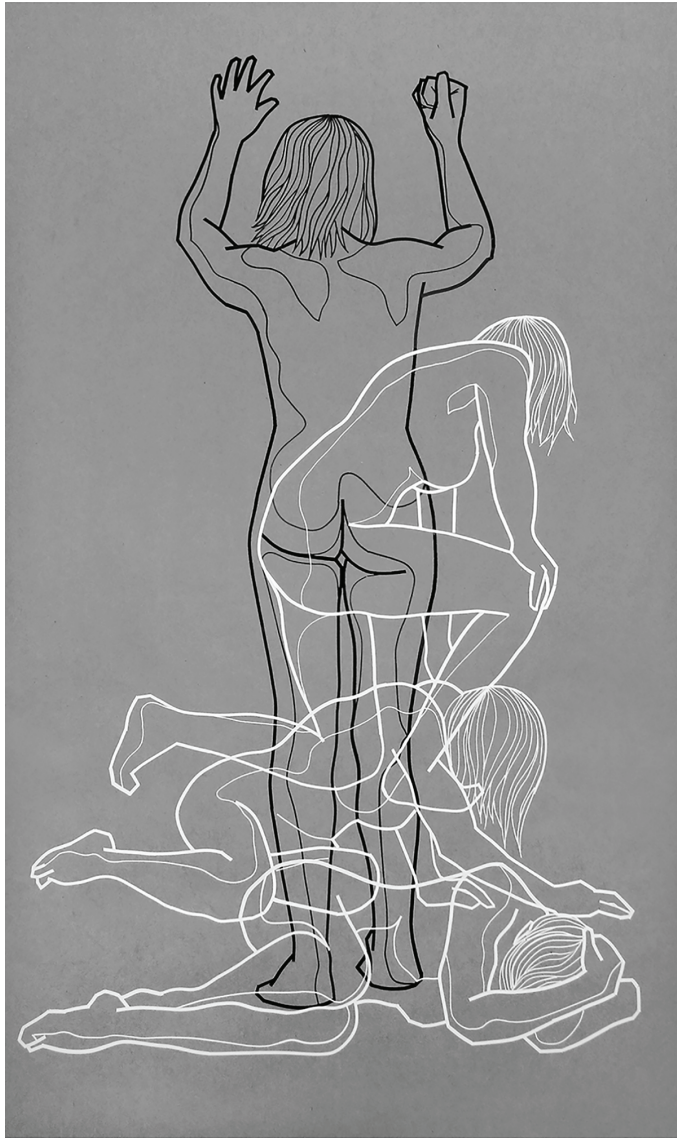
**Door, 2019 - Electrical Tape / Recycled Door - 29 x 75 in**



## Art & Democracy VI Selected Artists

**Artist Name:**  
Chiho Harazaki

**Country:**  
United States  
/ Japan



**About the Artwork:** It shows the transition of a person mentally locked in the dark depressing life, who is getting up with her/his full effort, to open a new door for a new life. As my regret, I spent too many years not knowing my mental problems and not believing happiness in life. I want to encourage people with any personal struggles and to let them know that they are not only one.

**About the Artist:** Chiho Harazaki grew up in Japan, and later moved to Los Angeles. Spending time with people from so many different cultures and backgrounds helped her to realize that there are many different ways to approach our lives and to view the world. Since discovering tape art in college, Harazaki has been fascinated by using adhesive tape for her art. Tiny pieces of tape, cut by precision knife and scissors, create each detail used to compose a whole picture. Harazaki's subject matter includes a variety of cultural, historical, and narrative elements as well as social comment.

**Adaptation, 2018 - Electrical Tape / Paper - 42 x 70 in**





**Artist Name:**

Dorit Jordan  
Dotan

**Country:**

Germany /  
Israel

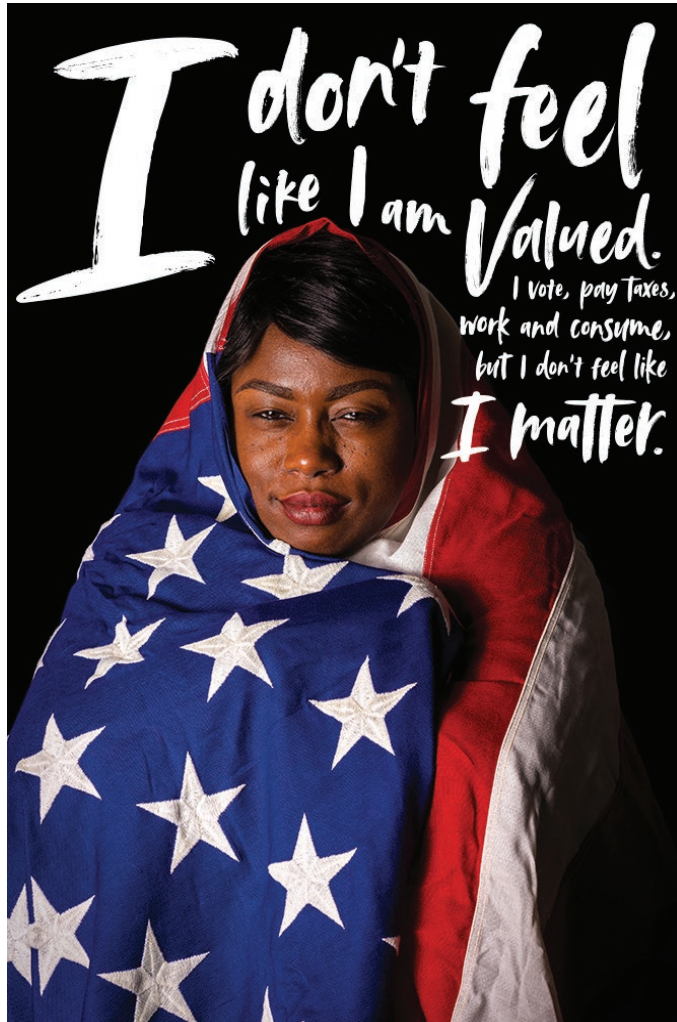
**About the Artwork:** There have always been those who, as minorities, have fewer rights than others. I utilize my right to protest through my images, especially when those whom I photograph often cannot freely protest for themselves. What we witness today, we have seen before.

**About the Artist:** Dorit Jordan Dotan, Israeli-German artist, lives in Chicago, combines her photography with innovative digital art. She creates Mixed Media exploring verity of materials, Video Art, Installation Art and Painting. Her images often express her social/political views. Through her creations, she attempts to call attention to social and cultural issues. Her work has been exhibited in The USA, EU and Israel.



**The Lady Protests, 2016 - Mixed Media - 20 x 19 in**

**Artist Name:**  
Antwon Key  
**Country:**  
United States



About the Artwork: Red, White, and Black explores African-American citizenship and who gets the honor to be critical and still patriotic. This project compels the viewer to consider about not only alternative perspectives but allows African-Americans of diverse circumstances a channel to contribute to the enduring discussion of expanding American liberties.

About the Artist: Antwon Key is a graphic designer, photographer, and an Assistant Professor of Graphic Design at Salem State University in Salem, Massachusetts. He holds an MFA in Graphic Design from the Vermont College of Fine Arts and a BA in Advertising from the University of Alabama. He has had the opportunity to produce digital and integrated campaigns from conception to production with various public and private institutions. His project—Red, White, and Black: A Visual Introspective of Alternative American Perspectives—won a 2018 Regional Award from Print Magazine and was included in the HOW+Print Magazine publication the Best of Design 2019.

**Red, White, and Black: A Visual Introspective of Alternative American Perspectives, 2017**  
- Print Posters - 17 x 24 in



**Artist Name:**  
Elisa Ortega  
Montilla  
**Country:**  
United States



**About the Artwork:** 10.000 km Away explores feelings of displacement that immigrants experience while far from home—the distance between two places, where you are from and where social and economic forces obligate you to go. This piece evokes the idea of carrying bags that contain and transport elements of one's identity across land and sea.

**About the Artist:** Elisa Ortega is a visual artist and social worker who incorporates art as a tool to empower the communities she has worked with for the last decade. She recently completed a Master of Fine Arts at the University of Santa Barbara. She has participated in collective and individual exhibitions in Spain; Guatemala; and the US. Ortega's work explores three fundamental parts of her self: her experience of being a woman; her feelings of acculturation from living in the US while maintaining her Spanish identity; and her opposition to consumerism and commitment to environmental sustainability.

**10.000 km Away, 2019 - Mixed Media - 60 x 56 x 6 in**

**Artist Name:**  
Ulises  
Rodriguez  
**Country:**  
United States



**About the Artwork:** This piece is a response to how the current government administration views immigrants, specifically those arriving from Mexico. It reflects on the feelings of immigrants, and the concerns of family members who are affected by this administration.

**About the Artist:** I am a photography student that aims to show different themes through out my art work. Having been raised in a Mexican house hold I grew up learning that the immigration issue doesn't affect me but I should fight to help those that don't have a voice because it is my problem as well.

**Keep Dreaming, 2018 - Photograph - 16 x 20 in**



## Art & Democracy VI Selected Artists

**Artist Name:**  
Oree Originol  
**Country:**  
United States



**About the Artwork:** Justice For Our Lives is a response to the state sponsored killings of marginalized people in this country at the hands of US law enforcement. With black and indigenous people facing the highest rates it also makes the connection to other populations that are resisting this form of legalized violence.

**About the Artist:** Oree Originol is a visual artist from Los Angeles, residing in Oakland where he began his art career. His abstract artwork is his primary focus but since 2014 he has been working on completing 100 'Justice for our Lives' portraits to resist the ongoing violence perpetuated by US law enforcement.

Untitled, 2018 - Graphic Design / Paper - 6 ft x 6 ft

**Artist Name:**  
Nicole Jeffords

**Country:**  
United States

**About the Artwork:** After Trump's election I began a series of portraits of his administration which are used as the basis for provocative memes published on ArtProfiler.com. When painting these over privileged figures who lack a moral compass in both life and leadership becomes too dark, I paint the women who have stood up to them.

**About the Artist:** Nicole Jeffords is an Austin-based fine arts painter specializing in portraiture. Her work combines elements that are both classical and expressionistic, dwelling on the natural beauty of the face as well as the subject's raw emotional energy and psychological patterns that come through as the canvas develops.



**The Notorious RBG, 2018 - Oil / Canvas - 18 x 24 in**



**Under Oath, 2018 - Oil / Canvas - 18 x 24 in**



**Artist Name:**  
Alex Currie

**Country:**  
United States

**About the Artwork:** The New American West is a photograph I took during the summer of 2017, half a year after Trump's inauguration, at a time when it felt like America's democracy was under fire. It still is. I had recently returned home and caught the end of an airing of Fox News that a friend's parent was watching, and that experience inspired the photograph.

**About the Artist:** Alex Currie (b. 1997) is an American photographer and filmmaker. Born in Buffalo, New York, he spent his early childhood in Chula Vista, California before returning to Buffalo, and eventually Los Angeles. His work has shown in New York, Los Angeles, London, Rome, Milan, Hong Kong, Washington D.C. and Buffalo.



**The New American West, 2017 - Photograph - 4 x 6 in**

**Artist Name:**  
Ulises  
Rodriguez  
**Country:**  
Peru /  
United States



**About the Artwork:** Thoughts and Prayers was made in the wake of the growing epidemic of mass shootings in schools throughout the United States, and the indifference of politicians who refuse to implement gun control laws.

**About the Artist:** I'm a digital artist living in Los Angeles. I was born in Lima, Peru, in 1976, and I lived there for 40 years. My work is political, it attempts to draw attention to situations such as homelessness, environmental destruction, mass shootings, the unfortunate obsolescence of truth, discrimination and homophobia.

**Thoughts & Prayers, 2018 - Ink Jet Print - 30 x 23 in**



**Artist Name:**  
Vivian  
Wenhuey Chen

**Country:**  
United States



From the Artist: "Born in Taiwan, I came to the United States to study law and lived in Boston, Massachusetts for more than 30 years. During those years, I worked as a lawyer and a banker, but always worked on my artworks whenever I could find time. While mostly self taught aside from the art courses in high school, I also attended art classes at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, a joint program with Tufts University and California State University Long Beach Art Department. I was also very active in art related activities, served as trustee of the Peabody Museum of Salem (now Peabody and Essex Museum) in Salem, Massachusetts from 1985 to 1994, co-founded the New England Chinese American Fine Arts Society in Boston and was its vice president and sat on its board from 1994 to 2005. In 2005 I moved to and settled in Long Beach, California. In addition to continuing my art career, I am also getting involved in many art organizations. Currently, I am a member of Los Angeles Art Association and South Bay Contemporary Art Critique Group. I have exhibited in Long Beach Cultural Alliance, Torrance Art Museum, Nevada Museum of Fine Arts, Florence Biennale, Florence, Italy, Salon des Artistes Independents, Paris, France, and Werby Gallery, CSULB, in addition to exhibits in many artists organizations."

**Dao De Jing Sutra RBL001, 2018, - 36 x 48 in**

**Artist Name:**  
Vivian  
Wenhuey Chen

**Country:**  
United States



From the Artist: "Born in Taiwan, I came to the United States to study law and lived in Boston, Massachusetts for more than 30 years. During those years, I worked as a lawyer and a banker, but always worked on my artworks whenever I could find time. While mostly self taught aside from the art courses in high school, I also attended art classes at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, a joint program with Tufts University and California State University Long Beach Art Department. I was also very active in art related activities, served as trustee of the Peabody Museum of Salem (now Peabody and Essex Museum) in Salem, Massachusetts from 1985 to 1994, co-founded the New England Chinese American Fine Arts Society in Boston and was its vice president and sat on its board from 1994 to 2005. In 2005 I moved to and settled in Long Beach, California. In addition to continuing my art career, I am also getting involved in many art organizations. Currently, I am a member of Los Angeles Art Association and South Bay Contemporary Art Critique Group. I have exhibited in Long Beach Cultural Alliance, Torrance Art Museum, Nevada Museum of Fine Arts, Florence Biennale, Florence, Italy, Salon des Artists Independents, Paris, France, and Werby Gallery, CSULB, in addition to exhibits in many artists organizations."

**Dao De Jing Sutra BB3S002, 2018, - 16 x 20 in**



**Artist Name:**  
Catherine  
Bauknight

**Country:**  
United States



Catherine Bauknight is an international News Photojournalist, Editorial Documentary Photographer, and Filmmaker, based in Los Angeles. She is an Adjunct Professor of Photography and a Journalist. The distinguished photographer was one of the first women photojournalists in the South from outside of New York City to Atlanta and while based in Charlotte, North Carolina she covered regional stories for Time Magazine, Newsweek, USA Today, the New York Times, People Magazine, Rolling Stone Magazine and published in Life Magazine and other international publications. Many assignments were based on the “Old South” transitioning to the “New South” through economic growth and social integration.

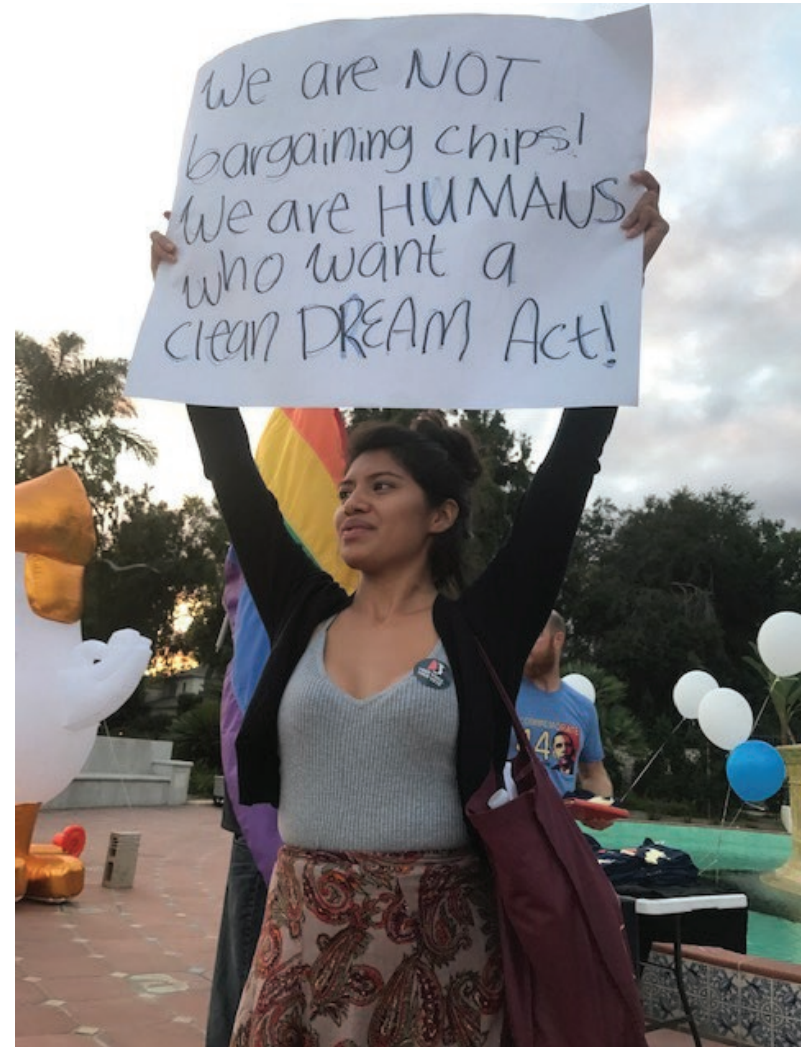
Social, political, environmental and sustainability issues are subjects she has covered over two decades on five continents for historical purposes and to help create change. This includes the Tiananmen Square Massacre in China, Contaminated Water in Ethiopia, The Renaissance of the Catawba Indians in South Carolina, the Tuberculosis Epidemic in Peru, and the 8-time award winning documentary film, Hawaii A Voice For Sovereignty awarded “Best Global Documentary Film Creating Change” in 2014. The screening of the film premiered at the Capitol Building in Washington, DC and continues in the U.S., Canada, New Zealand and Europe. It is currently being aired on Public Broadcasting Service(PBS).

**Untitled, 2018 - Photograph - 11 x 14 in**

**Artist Name:**  
Catherine  
Bauknight  
**Country:**  
United States



**Love is All We Need, 2018 - Photograph - 11 x 14 in**



**Not Bargaining, 2018 - Photograph - 11 x 14 in**



**Artist Name:**  
Jared  
Fortunato

**Country:**  
United States



**About the Artwork:** The work commemorates the normalization of misogyny at the highest levels of power and is named after President Trump's boast of sexually assaulting women. For a country battered by daily attacks to human decency, the image is both a call to action and a lament of what we've lost.

**About the Artist:** Jared Fortunato is a fine art photographer from Los Angeles. Working with both digital and film processes, his photographs communicate both symbolic content and form. He's exhibited in solo and group shows across California, and recently completed his MFA in Photography at the Academy of Art.

**Grab 'em by the P\*ssy, 2016 - Digital Composite Photograph - 20 x 30 in**

**Artist Name:**  
Vojislav  
Radovanovic

**Country:**  
Serbia /  
United States

**About the Artwork:** As a recent immigrant to the USA, Vojislav explored themes of displacement, identity, cultural heritage, and memory. The undercurrents touch upon his own Serbian country's war-torn past, the pain of Native American history and the genocide brought on by settlers, and contemporary political topics like the current US immigration policy.

**About the Artist:** Vojislav Radovanovic, originally from Serbia (Valjevo 1982), now lives in Los Angeles, CA. Classically educated as a painter and printmaker, his work is usually based on traditional drawing techniques but very often expanded through gallery installations, performance, experimental videos, and even architectural atmospheres. His most recognized exhibition to date, "Theory of Unity", is a site specific artwork installed at a 16th century Mosque in central Serbia. In Vojislav's work spirituality and universal unity play very important role. He is fascinated by nature, particularly wild plants, widely known as weeds. Their determination to live and ability to survive have influenced his art for over a decade.



**Unidentified immigrant in Paris 2016, 2018 - Acrylic / Cardboard - 60 x 36 in**



**Artist Name:**  
Vojislav  
Radovanovic

**Country:**  
Serbia /  
United States

**About the Artwork:** As a recent immigrant to the USA, Vojislav explored themes of displacement, identity, cultural heritage, and memory. The undercurrents touch upon his own Serbian country's war-torn past, the pain of Native American history and the genocide brought on by settlers, and contemporary political topics like the current US immigration policy.

**About the Artist:** Vojislav Radovanovic, originally from Serbia (Valjevo 1982), now lives in Los Angeles, CA. Classically educated as a painter and printmaker, his work is usually based on traditional drawing techniques but very often expanded through gallery installations, performance, experimental videos, and even architectural atmospheres. His most recognized exhibition to date, "Theory of Unity", is a site specific artwork installed at a 16th century Mosque in central Serbia. In Vojislav's work spirituality and universal unity play very important role. He is fascinated by nature, particularly wild plants, widely known as weeds. Their determination to live and ability to survive have influenced his art for over a decade.



**Unidentified immigrant in Paris 2016, 2018 - Acrylic / Cardboard - 60 x 36 in**

**Artist Name:**  
Diana Wong

**Country:**  
Hong Kong /  
United States

**About the Artwork:** Hong Kong Past and Present is a pop-up construction in foam board and historic newspaper reproductions parts by hand touch.

**About the Artist:** "As someone who is born and raised in Hong Kong, I am naturally concerned on the well beings of the people of Hong Kong."



**Hong Kong Past and Present, 2019 - Mixed Media - 15.5"x 8"x 7"**