



MEDIA CONTACT:
Lauren Marty
Bakersfield Museum of Art
(661) 323-7219 |
lmarty@bmoa.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Material, Process, Subject, and Kids! Bakersfield Museum of Art Debuts New Exhibitions

Bakersfield, CA – September 13: An exhibition that spotlights the connection between material and process in presenting subject and intent premieres at the Bakersfield Museum of Art (BMoA) on Thursday, September 29, 2022 from 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM.

Of Rope And Chain Her Bones Are Made is a collection of 44 objects by nine Los Angeles-based female artists who, through textiles, oil paintings, cast bronze, porcelain, drawings, and other materials, reference both the natural world and human labor in their work. “Though the artists have aesthetic interests in common, they use different media and techniques to boldly confront the viewer in a celebration of gender, history, and our broader humanity,” says BMoA Curator Rachel McCullah Wainwright.

In addition to works on paper and sculpture, viewers will see installations that float, sway, sag, and defy gravity, enveloping the Cunningham and Dezember galleries.

This is the exhibition’s second iteration, organized initially at Craig Krull Gallery (Santa Monica, CA). BMoA’s treatment of the exhibit emphasizes the tactile connections and labor evident in each object while also providing space for each artist’s personal philosophy to be fully explored.

“The artists included in this exhibition—Lavialle Campbell, Syndey Croskery, Pamela Smith Hudson, Taylor Kibby, Christy Matson, Blue McRight, Brittany Mojo, Claudia Parducci, and Diane Silver—hail from diverse ethnic, social, and professional backgrounds, in alignment with BMoA’s commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion,” says Wainwright. Work by these artists has been featured in museums throughout California; this exhibition marks their debut in Bakersfield.

Of Rope And Chain Her Bones Are Made is on view through January 7, 2023.

Celebrating BMoA’s Summer Art Camp features 20 objects from some of Kern County’s youngest artists, participants in our 2022 Summer Art Camp. Each session introduced artists ages 2 – 17 to artists and objects on view while exploring sculpture, drawing, painting, bookmaking, illustration, and art history. “Color, texture, and line all come together, allowing

viewers to connect to the children’s stories,” says BMOA Education and Family Coordinator Maria Ornelas.”

Celebrating BMOA’s Summer Art Camp is on view through January 7, 2023.

These two exhibitions join two others on BMOA’s fall calendar.

Under the Kern County Sky: Prapat Sirinavarat

The work of Bakersfield-based and Bangkok-born artist Prapat Sirinavarat “illuminates new paths into understanding and questioning our place in the universe,” says Wainwright, through minute details from the natural world and the Buddhist tradition set in scenes that are both celestial and microbiological. His dreamlike scenes reflect the influence of mid-twentieth century Surrealism and its distinctive combination of concept and creation in the modern world. *Under the Kern County Sky* remains on view through January 7, 2023.

Exploring the Figure: Selections from BMOA’s Permanent Collection

Exploring the Figure highlights the myriad of approaches in which artists have used the figure to communicate. Surveying an 80-year period and selected from the Museum’s Permanent Collection, the exhibit explores the history of portraiture and how the human figure is used to express beliefs, identity, and what it means to be human. BMOA’s Permanent Collection, comprised of over 400 pieces, highlights California artists from the 19th century to the present and seeks to present a comprehensive survey of art produced in and about California. *Exploring the Figure* remains on view through December 2, 2022.

Admission to the opening reception is free for BMOA members, \$5 per person for students and seniors, or \$10 per person for non-members.

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ABOUT BMOA

The Bakersfield Museum of Art’s mission is to inspire and engage diverse audiences by providing a broad spectrum of creative visual arts experiences through the exhibition and preservation of fine art, educational programs, community outreach and special events. BMOA is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. with free admission and extended hours until 8 p.m. every First Friday of the month. The Museum is closed most major holidays. Visit bmoa.org or call (66) 323-7219 for more information. Follow the museum on Facebook and Instagram @thebmoa and on Twitter @bmoa.