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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bakersfield Museum of Art Debuts Winter 2024 Exhibitions

Bakersfield, CA – January 10, 2024: Three new exhibits premiere at the Bakersfield Museum of Art (BMoA) during its opening reception on Thursday, January 25, from 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM. Admission to the opening reception is free for BMoA members, \$5 per person for students and seniors, or \$10 per person for non-members.

“Artists are explorers, people who identify new ways of seeing the world around us and render those visions in figurative, realist, or abstract ways,” says BMoA curator Victor Gonzales. “The photographers, painters, and sculptors sharing their work this season are sharing their discoveries with us.”

The exhibit *Modern Women | Modern Vision: Photographs from the Bank of America Collection* celebrates the bold and dynamic ways women have contributed to the development and evolution of photography. 54 artists and more than 100 images comprise this stunning collection, including works by Margaret Bourke-White, *Life* magazine’s first cover photographer, Dorothea Lange, the photographer behind iconic images of the ravages of the Great Depression (1929 – 1939) and the Dust Bowl (1930 – 1936), and others, all of whom expand the definition of what women and photography could be and do. This exhibition has been loaned through the Bank of America Art in our Communities® program.

“We were excited to bring this incredible exhibition to the Bakersfield Museum of Art as part of our Arts in our Communities program that loans art exhibitions at no cost to nonprofit community museums, as a way to help drive the local economy and social connections,” said Karen Zuber, Bakersfield Market President, Bank of America. “Bakersfield has a tremendous arts and culture landscape, and we encourage everyone to visit and experience it.”

Forms of Influence by David Ligare spotlights the artist’s search for knowledge and order in a modern world compromised by political polarization and drenched by social media. A realist painter, Ligare finds inspiration in Classicism’s search for perfect knowledge. He uses the endlessly inspirational landscape of the California Coast—an analog for the Italian coast he has frequently explored—as both subject and muse. *Forms of Influence* marks Ligare’s second exhibition at BMoA. His work has been shown in New York, Los Angeles, London, San Francisco, Santa Fe, Rome and elsewhere.

Modern Women | Modern Vision: Photographs from the Bank of America Collection and *Forms of Influence by David Ligare* will be on view through May 4, 2024.

Rochelle Botello’s brightly colored sculptural installations and drawn works express her innate curiosity and sense of wonder in the simultaneously mundane and absurd experiences of everyday life, blurring

the lines between reality and imagination. *Free Fall* is a vivid celebration of the complexity and brevity of the human condition viewed through the themes of control and chaos, stability and instability, and strength and vulnerability.

Rochelle Botello: Free Fall will be on view through September 7, 2024.

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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 PM every first Friday of the month. BMOA 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 X / Twitter and YouTube @bmoa.

ABOUT Bank of America

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