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Hammer Museum Announces 27 Artists for Made in L.A. 2025 Biennial On View October 5, 2025 – January 4, 2026

(Los Angeles, CA) — The Hammer Museum at UCLA announced today the 27 artists participating in the upcoming edition of its acclaimed Made in L.A. biennial, opening this fall. This is the seventh iteration of the Hammer’s biennial, highlighting the practices of artists working throughout the greater Los Angeles area. Organized by curators **Essence Harden** and **Paulina Pobocho**, the exhibition is on view October 5, 2025 – January 4, 2026.

Hammer Museum director **Zoë Ryan** said, “Every two years, the Made in L.A. biennial offers a chance for local and international audiences to celebrate the incredible work being made by artists in this city. Los Angeles is still grappling with the terrible fires of the last few weeks but, as we look ahead to the fall, I hope this biennial can demonstrate the resilience of artists and this city.”

In a joint statement, curators Harden and Pobocho said, “From the outset of this process, our primary objective was to look at art, and to see as much of it as possible. We wanted to learn from artists and distill an exhibition from those experiences. While there are as many ideas circulating through the show as there are materials, an inquiry into one’s relationship to the city of Los Angeles animates much of the work we will present. Neither myth nor monolith, this city is many things to many people, and its cacophonous disorder is, perhaps, its most distinguishing feature.”

Harden and Pobocho have spent the past year visiting studios, artist-run venues, commercial galleries, and museums across Los Angeles County. Their final selection comprises a multigenerational group of artists making work across media, including painting, sculpture, video, installation, music, and performance. Painters **Greg Breda**, **Ali Eyal**, **Hanna Hur**, **Beaux Mendes**, **Patrick Martinez**, and others will show work that expertly deploys the medium to expand the parameters of genre—whether history painting or geometric abstraction—sometimes beyond recognition. **Carl Cheng** and **Pat O’Neill**, both of whom have been working in L.A. for more than sixty years, will be represented by their lesser-known works that underscore their innovative explorations of sculptural material. The exhibition will also include a presentation by **John Knight**, continuing his decades-long interrogation of the built environment as an ideological space. Architecture and domesticity are central actors in the practices of both **Jerald Cooper** and **Michael Donte (Black House Radio)**, who look at its potential to create community—past and present. Artists **Widline Cadet**, **Na Mira**, and **Mike Stoltz** will present experimental film and video that engage spatial as well as optical registers. Playwright and filmmaker **Leilah Weinraub** will premiere a stage play produced for the exhibition, in collaboration with **New Theater Hollywood (Max Pitegoff and Calla Henkel)**. Choreographer **Will Rawls**, whose beautiful compositions belie the tensions undergirding contemporary life, will prepare a new work that reflects upon the tumult experienced across the city during the past year.

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

David Alekhuogie (b. 1986, Los Angeles)

Black House Radio / Michael Donte (est. 2023)

Greg Breda (b. 1959, Los Angeles)

Widline Cadet (b. 1992, Pétion-Ville, Ayiti, Haiti)

Carl Cheng (b. 1942, San Francisco)

Jerald “Coop” Cooper (b. 1983, Cincinnati)

Ali Eyal (b. 1994, Baghdad, Iraq)

Hanna Hur (b. 1985, Toronto)

John Knight (b. 1945, Los Angeles)

Kristy Luck (b. 1985, Woodstock, IL)

Patrick Martinez (b. 1980, Pasadena)

Beaux Mendes (b. 1987, New York)

Na Mira (b. 1982, Lawrence, KS)

New Theater Hollywood / Max Pitegoff and Calla Henkel (est. 2024)

Pat O’Neill (b. 1939, Los Angeles)

Will Rawls (b. 1978, Boston)

Brian Rochefort (b. 1985, Lincoln, NE)

Amanda Ross-Ho (b. 1975, Chicago)

Gabriela Ruiz (b. 1991, San Fernando Valley)

Alake Shilling (b. 1993, Los Angeles)

Nicole-Antonia Spagnola (b. 1991, Los Angeles)

Mike Stoltz (b. 1981, Miami)

Peter Tomka (b. 1989, Des Moines)

Freddy Villalobos (b. 1989, Los Angeles)

Kelly Wall (b. 1990, Los Angeles)

Leilah Weinraub (b. 1979, Los Angeles)

Bruce Yonemoto (b. 1949, San Jose)

CREDITS

Made in L.A. 2025 is organized by Essence Harden, independent curator, and Paulina Pobocho, Chair and Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art, The Art Institute of Chicago and former Hammer Museum Robert Soros Senior Curator, with Jennifer Buonocore-NedreLOW, curatorial assistant.

The exhibition is made possible by the Mohn Family Foundation and members of the Hammer Circle. Major support is provided by Miky Lee. Generous support is provided by Mark Sandelson.

MOHN AWARDS

Funded through the generosity of Los Angeles philanthropists and art collectors Jarl and Pamela Mohn, The Mohn Award (\$100,000) and the Career Achievement Award (\$25,000) will be selected by a professional jury, and the Public Recognition Award (\$25,000) will be determined through a public vote. All the artists in the exhibition are eligible to receive the awards. In 2023 **Akinsanya Kambon** received the Mohn Award; **Pippa Garner** received the Career Achievement Award, and **Jackie Amézquita** received the Public Recognition Award. In 2020 **Kandis Williams** received the Mohn Award; **Monica Majoli** received the Career Achievement Award; and **MR. WASH** received the Public Recognition Award. In 2018 **Lauren Halsey** received the Mohn Award; **Daniel Joseph Martinez** received the Career Achievement Award; and **EJ Hill** received the Public Recognition Award. Dancer **Adam Linder** received the Mohn Award in 2016, **Alice Könitz** received it in 2014, and **Meleko Mokgosi** received it in 2012.

CATALOGUE

Made in L.A. 2025 is accompanied by an illustrated catalogue that includes curatorial essays and commissioned texts focusing on each of the 27 artists. In the spirit of the exhibition, the catalogue embraces a panoply of writers’ voices from a broad range of disciplines, at various stages in their

careers. Among the contributions are interviews, critical essays, and experimental writing exercises, but all stem from conversations between author and artist and focus on their relationships to the city of Los Angeles. The catalogue is designed by Los Angeles-based designers Folder Studio and distributed worldwide by DelMonico Books•Prestel.

ABOUT MADE IN L.A.

The Hammer's biennial exhibition series *Made in L.A.* focuses exclusively on artists from Los Angeles. The biennial debuts new installations, videos, films, sculptures, performances, and paintings commissioned specifically for the exhibition and offers insight into the current trends and practices coming out of Los Angeles, one of the most active and energetic art communities in the world. *Made in L.A.* began in 2012 and is now in its seventh iteration. It followed in the tradition of Hammer Invitational exhibitions, which occurred every two years and included *Snapshot* (2001), *International Paper* (2003), *Thing* (2005), *Eden's Edge* (2007), *Nine Lives* (2009), and *All of this and nothing* (2011).

Made in L.A. 2023: Acts of Living was organized by curators Diana Nawi and Pablo José Ramirez, with Ashton Cooper, Luce Curatorial Fellow.

Made in L.A. 2020: a version was organized by independent curators Myriam Ben Salah and Lauren Mackler, with the Hammer's Ikechukwu Onyewuenyi, assistant curator of performance. *Made in L.A. 2020* was organized by the Hammer Museum in partnership with The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens.

Made in L.A. 2018 was organized by Anne Ellegood, senior curator, and Erin Christovale, assistant curator, with MacKenzie Stevens, curatorial associate. Performances were coordinated by Vanessa Arizmendi, curatorial assistant.

Made in L.A. 2016: a, the, though, only was cocurated by Hammer curator Aram Moshayedi and Hamza Walker, former director of education and associate curator at the Renaissance Society in Chicago and currently director of The Brick in Los Angeles.

Made in L.A. 2014 was cocurated by Hammer chief curator Connie Butler and Los Angeles-based independent curator Michael Ned Holte.

Made in L.A. 2012 was organized by a team of curators from the Hammer Museum and LAXART: Hammer senior curator Anne Ellegood, Hammer curator Ali Subotnick, LAXART director and chief curator Lauri Firstenberg, LAXART associate director and senior curator Cesar Garcia, and LAXART curator-at-large Malik Gaines.

ABOUT THE HAMMER MUSEUM

The Hammer Museum is part of the School of the Arts and Architecture at UCLA, and offers exhibitions and collections that span classic to contemporary art. It holds more than 50,000 works in its collection, including one of the finest collections of works on paper in the nation, the Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts. Through a wide-ranging, international exhibition program and the *Made in L.A.* biennial, the Hammer highlights contemporary art since the 1960s, especially the work of emerging and under-recognized artists. The exhibitions, permanent collections, and nearly 300 public programs annually—

including film screenings, lectures, symposia, readings, music performances, and workshops for families—are all free to the public.

HAMMER MUSEUM INFORMATION

Admission to all exhibitions and programs at the Hammer Museum is free. Hours: Tuesday–Thursday & Saturday–Sunday 11 a.m.–6 p.m.; Friday 11 a.m.–8 p.m. Closed Mondays and national holidays. Hammer Museum, 10899 Wilshire Boulevard at Westwood, Los Angeles. Onsite parking is \$8 for the first 3 hours (maximum \$22), or \$8 flat rate after 5 p.m. Valet parking is available at the Lindbrook Drive entrance for \$15. Visit hammer.ucla.edu for details or call 310-443-7000.

Free Admission at the Hammer Museum is courtesy of Marcy Carsey, the Erika J Glazer Family Foundation, and the Anthony & Jeanne Pritzker Family Foundation.