

Acknowledgements

When I landed in Southern California and entered the Cal State Long Beach grad program in fall 2008, I was wide-eyed and curious about how to connect with my peers. Fine Arts Round Table advertised its first meeting of the new school year; as an organization “committed to facilitating exchange,” “FARt” sounded like the opportunity I was looking for. But strangely, just about everyone who showed up to that first meeting was duly elected to office... With a box of paperwork and hearty best wishes from the departing old guard, we were charged with making the community we were seeking.

Entering into and enlivening a community – especially on such a large campus amid the sprawling expanse of the LA metropolitan area – has been both challenging and effortless. This year’s work has reminded me that while community is stimulating, it can’t be decreed, and that community is responsive, but it doesn’t necessarily come to you. At first, we struggled to get more than a handful of people to turn out to FARt meetings. There were stressful moments when we worried that the organization of GLAMFA and Open Studios would fall on a few people. But thankfully, a dedicated community has emerged. It has evolved, ebbed and flowed and exerted vitality with each breath.

We were fortunate to receive the skillful legacy of past leaders, and I have been delighted by the people who stepped forward to contribute to the success of our two programs. Even as California has tumbled into an economic abyss, the University extended generous endorsements for these events that they regard as imperative to our unique growth as artists, our collective educational experience and our reputable outreach into the region. For all this, I am honored to welcome and thank the many organizations and individuals who were active in our creative community in 2009.

We are grateful to the College of the Arts and the Art Department for continuing their loyal support: Donald J. Para, Dean; Jay Kvapil, Assistant Dean; David Hadlock, Chair; Christopher

Miles, Graduate Advisor; Cher Comer, Faculty Coordinator; Doris Taylor, Accounting Coordinator; and Patrick Mullen, Computer Technician. Sincere thanks are offered to Associated Students, Inc. and Bret Waterfield, Assistant Director of Student Life & Development and FART's ASI Advisor, for helping to broaden the boundaries of our campus.

Our deepest appreciation goes to Professor Craig Cree Stone, FART's Faculty Advisor, for his steady encouragement, advice and loyalty to our organization and mission. For contributing to insightful, educational programming that complements both GLAMFA and Open Studios, additional thanks go to Bryan Crockett, Associate Professor of Art, Sculpture Program Head; Assistant Professors of Art Rebecca Sittler-Schrock and Tiffany Sum; visiting artists Micha Cárdenas, Cameron Crone, Jocelyn Foye, Eben Goff, Elle Mehrmand, Joanne Mitchell and Andrew Printer; and CSULB graduate students Tracy C Gorden (Open Studios Assistant Coordinator), Megan Hoetger (FART President, GLAMFA Coordinator), Bryan Allen Moore and Kelly Nye (GLAMFA Assistant Coordinator). We are indebted to Dr. Nizan Shaked, Assistant Professor, and the Museum Studies program for generously lending electronic and media equipment, and to Kiel Johnson, Gallery Preparator, for helping to present a dynamic installation.

This year's combined survey is realized through the efforts of volunteers, who have carved time from the end-of-the-semester crunch, summertime break, and back-to-school rush to jury GLAMFA (well over 160 collective hours), develop multiple publications, participate in events, and coordinate a dizzying number of details: Aimee Anderson, Patrick Ballard, Nathan Bockelman, Matthew Causey, Jordan Christian, Jennie Cotterill, Catherine Davis, Harry Diaz, Tyler Ferreira, Vivi Fitriani, Eamonn Fox, Ashlee Goodwin, Julia Haft-Candell, Jahan Khajavipour, Elise Preiss (FART Treasurer), Christina Shurts, Allison Stewart, Nancy Voegeli-Curran, Michael Ambrose Walsh (FART Vice-President), Brandon Williams, Matt Winkler and Elaine Zellie. More members of both the graduate and undergraduate programs will assist with installing the exhibition and hosting our visiting artists and the public, and I only regret that they

remain unnamed by our publication deadline. Thank you, all, for your time, talent, ideas and energy!

Lastly, we give our respect to the core of our community, the 72 participating artists who have stirred our senses and inspired our exchanges.

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