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Arts & Entertainment

Three Questions With an L.A. Art Show Organizer

By Nicholas Slayton 7 hrs ago



The 23rd edition of the L.A. Art Show will feature more than 100 galleries from around the world, plus performances organized by local museums.

photo courtesy the L.A. Art Show

DTLA - This week art collectors, curators and fans will descend on Downtown Los Angeles for a massive expo that spans a stunning 200,000 square feet. The L.A. Art Show returns to the Los Angeles Convention Center's South Hall for its 23rd edition on Wednesday-Sunday, Jan. 10-14.

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The show brings together paintings, sculptures and beyond from more than 100 galleries representing 18 countries. A one-day ticket is \$30 while a four-day pass is \$60, and visitors have opportunities to buy artworks on-site.

The show started in Pasadena in 1995 with a focus on historical art, but now highlights mostly modern and contemporary pieces. Los Angeles Downtown News spoke with Kim Martindale, a producer and partner of the event, ahead of the 2018 L.A. Art Show about what visitors can expect.

Los Angeles Downtown News: *Now that the show is in its 23rd year, what's changed? What are some of the highlights of this year's edition?*

Kim Martindale: I would say that one great new thing is having the museums come back and participate in the show, bringing special performances with them. There's Daniel Martinez's installation based on the painting *The Death of Marat*, which is being presented by LACMA and the UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center. The Museum of the Arts of the University of Guadalajara is bringing *Metaphysical Orozco*, a show of José Clemente Orozco's murals. They've mapped out the murals and are showing them via video projection.

Q: *This will attract dedicated collectors and art fans, but is this accessible to the average Angeleno?*

A: Completely. Our 'Works on Paper' section is more affordable, while our 'Project Space' also has values. Several of the artworks are under the \$10,000 mark. This is a show that has a wide range. Obviously places like Berlin's König Galerie or Casterline Goodman from Aspen will have more expensive works in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, if not in the million range. A super-serious collector can find something, but there's also stuff for Angelenos that are starting to get interested in collecting art.

Q: *It's not hard to find art in Downtown Los Angeles. There are a number of galleries and museums a short drive away. What sets the L.A. Art Show apart?*

A: Diversity. This year we have this section called DIVERSEartLA. That's 6,000-7,000 square feet of space set aside for global art and performance. We're not limiting ourselves to one style or region of focus. We also have a lot of special programming from museums like the Autry, to complement the galleries.

The L.A. Art Show runs Jan. 11-14 at the Los Angeles Convention Center, 1201 S. Figueroa St., (310) 822-9145 or laartshow.com.

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