

UAM CSULB NEWS

UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM FACT SHEET

MISSION

The mission of the University Art Museum is to provide quality educational experiences, within a global context, for the university community and general public through the exhibition, interpretation, and collection of contemporary and modern art.

ABOUT THE INSTITUTION

Established in 1973, the University Art Museum (UAM) at California State University, Long Beach, is a unique cultural institution that champions new and often challenging ideas through wide-ranging exhibitions and provocative programs. The UAM curatorial vision focuses on tension and interplay at the nexus of contemporary art, technology, and society. For over 30 years, the UAM has introduced numerous artists from diverse fields to a broad audience, both nationally and internationally, and has showcased many of the most significant artistic and cultural developments of the past 50 years. The UAM program of dynamic solo exhibitions and landmark group presentations define key moments in contemporary art, reflect the global nature of art today, and span a vast array of cultural activities and media.

HISTORY OF UAM

The University Art Museum, located on the campus of California State University, Long Beach, is one of the leaders in presenting exhibitions and projects that both push the boundaries of the definition of art and document important trends of the visual arts in the 20th century. Through dedication to scholarly and artistic excellence, the UAM has earned a reputation for its high-quality exhibitions and award-winning publications. The museum also plays a vital role in training future museum professionals, art educators, arts administrators, and artists.

Begun as a significant campus gallery in 1973 and accredited by the American Association of Museums in 1984, the UAM faced a series of major budget cut-backs in 1989, which reflected the growing economic crisis in California. Eight years later, however, the museum remains a vigorous and important resource in the field of visual arts for the largest comprehensive university system in the nation. In 1993, the university recognized the need for a new museum facility and the CSU Trustees voted to include a new museum as part of their capital improvement programs for that year. By combining funds from the CSU Chancellor's office with a lead gift from a local philanthropist, the UAM was able to celebrate its grand opening in a new space in 1994.

Ranking among the top ten-percent of the nation's 7,000 plus museums, and praised as one of the top museums in the state by the California Arts Council, the UAM maintains a permanent collection of works on paper and site-specific outdoor sculpture that has brought recognition to the university and the city of Long Beach. The works of the most important contemporary masters are part of the museum collection and are presented regularly as major exhibitions to be viewed and studied by students, scholars and the general public.

The museum regularly offers concerts, spoken-word events, gallery talks, lectures, and tours for both the campus and the community. In addition, UAM staff work with students as interns (and through paid positions) as part of their training for future careers in the arts. In short, the UAM continually seeks to serve the university and the regional community through the presentation of exciting exhibitions of contemporary art and design; the training of young people interested in the arts profession; the augmentation, enhancement, and display of the permanent collection; and unique opportunities to interact with artists through residencies, workshops, and lectures.

PERMANENT COLLECTIONS

The UAM maintains a permanent collection of over 1600 works of art that includes works on paper (prints, drawings, and photographs) by contemporary masters and cutting-edge emerging international artists; 21 site-specific outdoor sculptures located throughout the 322-acre campus; and the Gordon F. Hampton Collection of 85 mid-century American paintings by 42 artists. The Gordon F. Hampton Collection is rich in second-generation Abstract Expressionism and includes works by prominent members of the New York School of Painting and signature works by such artists as Al Held, Michael Goldberg, Adolph Gottlieb, Lee Krasner, and Milton Resnick. Valued over \$7 million, this special collection was gifted on the occasion of the museum's 25th anniversary; and is currently on view at the Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton law firm in Los Angeles. Tours of the Gordon F. Hampton collection can be arranged through the UAM Education department.

ADVISORY BOARD

Charged with shaping the future direction and vision of the UAM in 2005, Director Christopher Scoates believes contemporary art serves a vital social role and should extend beyond the art world and into the broader culture. It is his goal to enhance our purely visual arts projects with compelling new initiatives incorporating alternative film, new media, music and popular culture. To assist in achieving his long-range goals for the UAM, Scoates has strategically recruited some of the best and brightest minds in creative production, technology and business.

Michael Davis
David Hadlock
Linda Haley
Wesley G. Hampton
Sylvia Hartman
Tom Lloyd
Helen Lorenzini
Paulette Barrett Matson
Alex McDowell
Donna Mills

Helen Molles
Thomas Peckenpaugh
Larry Rice
Carol H. Richards
Lewis Shiro
Robert Swayze
John Underkoffler
Glen Ward
Daniel Wheeler

UAM STAFF

Christopher Scoates, Director
Ilee Kaplan, Associate Director
Sarah G. Vinci, Public Relations Director
Angela Barker, Registrar and Curator of the Permanent Collection
Brian Trimble, Curator of Education
Pet Sourinthone, Chief Preparator
John Ciulik, Office Manager
Shirley Brilliant, Accountant