

# UAM CSULB NEWS

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## MICHAEL + SIRJE GOLD TO CURATE WIDE ANGLE 3 AUCTION FOR UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM, CSULB

LONG BEACH—The University Art Museum announced today that L.A. collectors Sirje and Michael Gold have agreed to curate the art auction segment of the annual fundraising event WIDE ANGLE scheduled to take place on March 21, 2009 at the UAM.

The Gold's have been collecting art together since the early 1970s, and have acquired a sizable, museum worthy assortment that includes contemporary works by Charles Long, Anna Mendieta, Joel Morrison, Yoshitomo Nara, Steve Roden, Fred Tomaselli, and Kim Dingle. In addition to collecting Michael Gold has also curated several exhibitions, including *Wives Husband* in 2005, and *Tree Service* in 2008, both for Domestic Setting, an alternative art space in Los Angeles. In the March 2007 issue of *art Ltd*, writer George Melrod asked the Gold's what aspect of collecting they enjoyed the most, Michael replied:

*"It's a labor of love from every aspect: a love of the artist, of the work itself, and a love of the experience... we can't buy everything... we have to love a piece almost till it hurts, to really sacrifice for it."*

The Gold's are curating the WA3 auction with a novel approach – by pairing thirty established artists with thirty artists whose works have been less accessible for Southern California audiences. The winning bidders will receive both of the works in each pair for the price of one bid. These exciting pairs enhance the auction theme of "discovered/undiscovered." For example, guests who choose to bid on the work by painter Robert Olsen, will also receive the work of Olsen's cousin, John Mcquire Olsen. The Olsen's fathers are identical twins, and according to Gold, the cousins have a similar technique, but their work is quite different in attitude and subject matter. Artist's included in the auction are John Baldessari, Lita Albuquerque, Kristen Everberg, Todd Gray, Martin Kersels, Ed Keinholtz, Nathan Mabry, Kristen Morgin, Tia Pulitzer, Steve Roden, and Mark Ruwedel among others. Fifty percent of the proceeds raised on the art at the auction will go directly to the artists. A preview of the auction will initially take place on March 12th at the **SmogShoppe**, located in the Culver City art/design district; from March 18th through the 20th the works will be on view at the UAM from 12 to 5 PM.

WIDE ANGLE features intriguing ideas and projects by our cultural leaders. The inaugural presenter in 2006 was the late Anthony Minghella whose provocative talk about the future of film generated excitement over the subsequent two years. During WA2 in 2007, guests had the rare opportunity to learn about the world's first robotic opera from composer and leader at the MIT Media Lab Tod Machover, and author and former United States Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky, who shared insights about the creation of this groundbreaking work. Also internationally renowned baritone James Maddalena premiered excerpts from the opera, *Death and the Powers*, scheduled to open in Monte Carlo in 2009.

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**WIDE ANGLE 3 AN INSIDERS VIEW** presents Karole Armitage and David Salle in conversation over dinner, and a full performance of *Armitage Gone! Dance* with sets designed by David Salle at The Carpenter Performing Arts Center. WA3 includes the silent and live art auction curated by the Golds; cocktails and dinner at the UAM; performance; and for VIP ticket holders, a post-performance back stage reception with the cast and crew of *Armitage Gone! Dance*. Tickets are \$250 and \$500 and can be purchased by calling the UAM event line at 562-985-4384. For more information on WIDE ANGLE please visit the web site: [www.csulb.edu/uam/wideangle](http://www.csulb.edu/uam/wideangle)

Armitage and Salle have collaborated on new dance productions combining his set designs and her choreography that reflect the 21st century trend towards convergence and integration of genres for new and exciting cross-cultural work. *Armitage Gone! Dance* was launched in 2005 when Karole Armitage returned to the U.S. after 15 years of working abroad. The company has received numerous prestigious awards and commissions including the Joyce Theater's Cathy and Stephen Weinroth Fund for New Works; a National Dance Project Award; a Multi-Arts Production Fund Award; and commissions from the Guggenheim's Works and Process program; the Teatro Massimo Vincenzo Bellini de Catania, in Italy; Lincoln Center Out of Doors; and the Brooklyn Academy of Music. On March 21st, Her company will perform two recent works: *Ligeti Essays*, a suite of concise, jewel-like movements choreographed to music by the great Hungarian composer György Ligeti; and, which the New York Times called "one of the most beautiful dances to be seen in New York in a very long time."

Karole Armitage began her professional career in 1973 as a member of the Ballet du Grand Théâtre de Genève, Switzerland. Throughout the 80s, she led her own New York-based dance company. Armitage was invited by Mikhail Baryshnikov to create a work for American Ballet Theater and in 1987, she was asked by Rudolph Nureyev to create her fourth dance for the Paris Opera Ballet. In 1990, Armitage served as director of MaggioDanze in Florence, Italy. She returned to New York and formed her current company *Armitage Gone! Dance* in 2005. Armitage has created dances for numerous companies including the White Oak Dance Project, the Deutsche Oper Berlin, the Bayerische Staatsoper in Munich, Lyon Opera Ballet, Ballet Nacional de Cuba, the Washington Ballet, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, and the Rambert Dance Company. Armitage has received many honors including a Guggenheim Fellowship for Choreography (1986), the Grand Prix Roscigno Danze, Italy (2005), and France's highest arts award, Commandeur dans L'ordre des Arts et des Lettres (2007).

David Salle's work helped define the post-modern sensibility by combining figuration with an extremely varied pictorial language. Salle has had over seventy-five solo exhibitions in the United States and abroad, and his work is included in numerous museum collections in America, Europe, and Asia. In 1987 he had a mid-career retrospective at the Whitney Museum in New York, which traveled to several museums in the United States and Canada. In 1999 a retrospective exhibition opened at the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam which traveled to the Museum Moderne Kunst, Vienna; Castello di Rivoli, Turin; and the Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao. He is a long-time collaborator with choreographer Karole Armitage, designing sets and costumes for many of her dance productions. He also worked with Richard Foreman, and received a Guggenheim fellowship for theater design in 1986. In 1994-95 he directed the feature film *Search & Destroy*, starring Griffin Dunne and Christopher Walken. He lives and works in Brooklyn, New York.

Media Contact:  
Sarah G. Vinci  
Public Relations Director  
562.985.4299  
[svinci@csulb.edu](mailto:svinci@csulb.edu)

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