

CAROLYN
CAMPAGNA
KLEEFELD
CONTEMPORARY
ART MUSEUM

Press Contact

Ceirra Lark, Junior Communications and
Graphic Design Specialist
ceirra.lark@csulb.edu
Erin Stout, PhD, Chief Curator and
Interim Co-Director
erin.stout@csulb.edu

PRESS RELEASE

CAROLYN CAMPAGNA KLEEFELD CONTEMPORARY ART MUSEUM ANNOUNCES NEW SPRING 2026 EXHIBITIONS FEATURING NEW AQUISITIONS



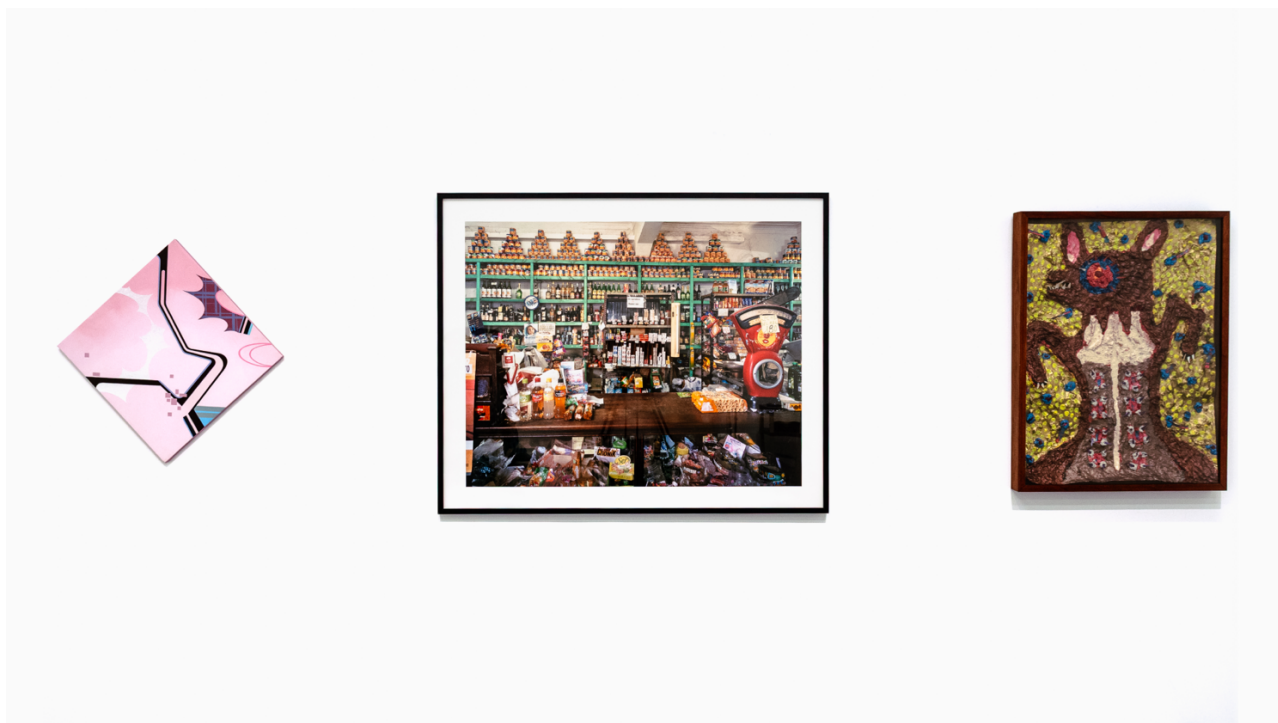
Photography of Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum, 2024. Photo by Tatiana Mata. © Tatiana Mata, 2024.

Long Beach, CA—Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum (the Museum) is pleased to announce the opening of three new exhibitions this spring: *Up Close: New Acquisitions*; *SpaceTime Collaborative: Cosmic Bloom*; and *Jillian Thompson: Limitless*. On view from **February through May 2026**, these exhibitions mark a unique season of programming celebrating Kleefeld Contemporary's ongoing commitment to serve as a platform for new ideas and diverse perspectives in contemporary art and culture.

In conjunction with new exhibitions, Kleefeld Contemporary will offer a lineup of events and programs, including artist talks, workshops, and tours. All exhibitions and programs at the Museum are free of charge, reinforcing the Museum's mission to ensure that access to contemporary art remains open, inclusive, and welcoming to all.

For more information about exhibition dates, events, and programs, visit our [website](#) and follow Kleefeld Contemporary on Instagram @thekleefeld.

NEW EXHIBITIONS



Installation Photography at Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum, 2026.
Works by: Phillip Argent, Guillermo Srodek-Hart, and Mark Milloff.

Exhibition Overview — *Up Close: New Acquisitions*

Main Gallery, February 10 – May 7

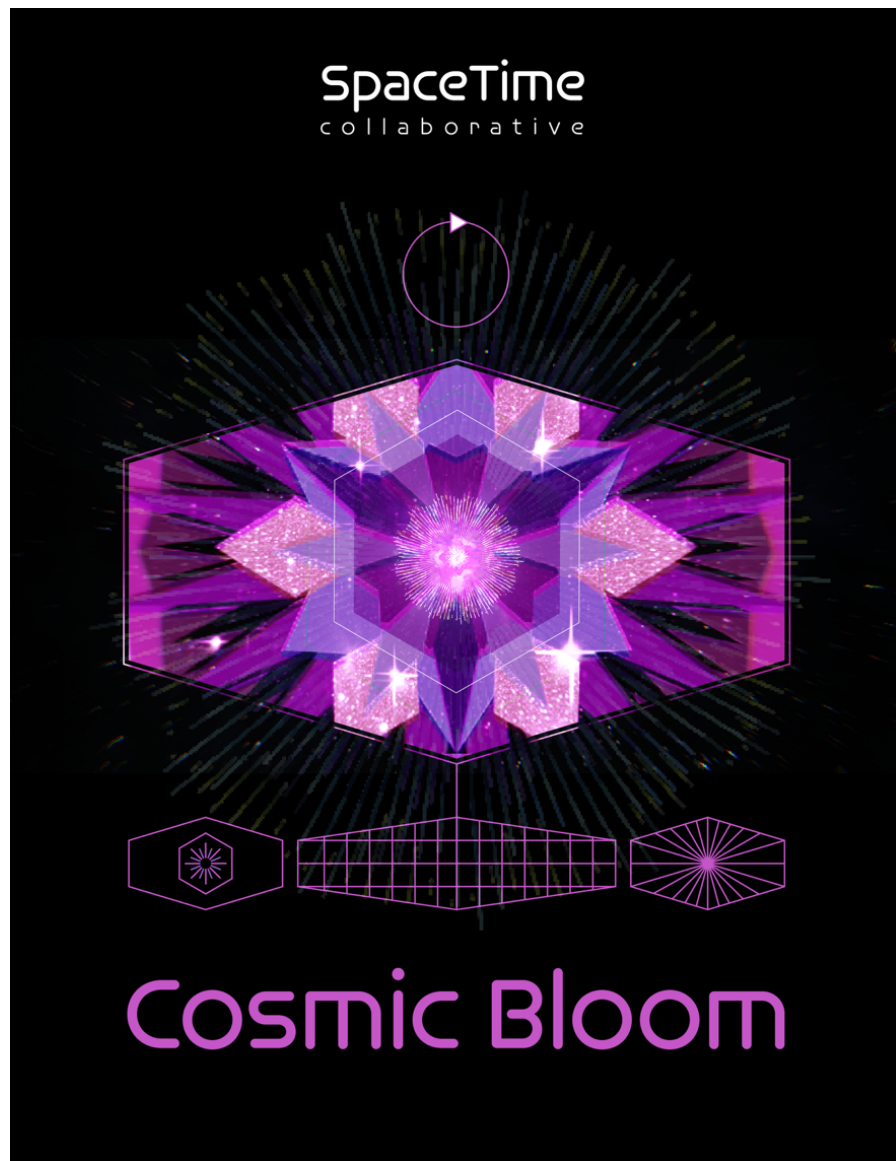
Up Close: New Acquisitions presents a selection of over one hundred works added to Kleefeld Contemporary's permanent collection since 2023. Featuring artwork by more than sixty artists spanning painting, photography, printmaking, assemblage, sculpture, fiber, and new media, the exhibition celebrates Kleefeld Contemporary's ongoing commitment to expand and share a permanent collection that reflects the complexity and diversity of the contemporary art world.

Including works from the 1960s to today, the recent acquisitions touch on a wide range of subject matter, from considerations of race and identity to explorations of gender, sexuality, and the body. Many of the works build key areas of the Museum's collection, such as different approaches to abstraction and material innovation. Adding depth and breadth to Kleefeld Contemporary's permanent collection, the acquisitions advance opportunities to illuminate new connections across time, place, and media.

Since its founding in 1974 as the University Art Museum, Kleefeld Contemporary's holdings have grown to over 2,000 objects, including historically significant works by celebrated modern artists as well as works by some of the most innovative artists of today. Kleefeld Contemporary's acquisition program aims to catalyze learning by engaging its permanent collection as an evergreen pedagogical resource, fostering understanding through arts integration at California State University, Long Beach and beyond.

Featured artists: Laura Aguilar; Phillip Argent; Phyllis Davidson; Aaron Curry; June Edmonds; timo fahler; Simone Gad; Joe Grillo; Candida Höfer; Terrence La Noue; Barry Le Va; Ericka Lopez; Arnold Mesches; Mark Milloff; Tony Oursler; Judy Pfaff; Guillermo Srodek-Hart; Laurie Steelink; Barbara Thomason; Hap Tivey; and Rita Yokoi, among others.

Up Close: New Acquisitions was organized by Chief Curator Erin Stout, PhD, and the staff of Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum. We acknowledge with gratitude the generous support for this exhibition and accompanying programs provided by the CSULB Instructionally Related Activities Fund, the Elizabeth and Charles Brooks Endowment, and the Arts Council for Long Beach and the City of Long Beach and Percent for the Arts.



Exhibition Overview — SpaceTime Collaborative: Cosmic Bloom

Mini Gallery, February 10 – May 7

“Petals of sound, pollen of light, roots of vibration... come explore the emergence of a universe within *Cosmic Bloom.*” - SpaceTime Collaborative

Cosmic Bloom is a participatory experience where visitors become part of a generative sound and light environment. Conceived by Long Beach-based interdisciplinary collective SpaceTime Collaborative, the immersive surround evokes the impression of traveling across the universe on an interplanetary spaceship or navigating the internal workings of a beehive from the perspective of ultraviolet light-seeing bees. The interactive multisensory environment is designed to collectively bring creative possibilities to life. As visitors explore the installation, *Cosmic Bloom* unfolds, infusing the space with sounds and visuals that stimulate curiosity and imagination.

SpaceTime Collaborative is a creative ecosystem where the digital and analog come to play. A Long beach-based collective of designers, musicians, culinary artists, and sustainability advocates, SpaceTime Collaborative is dedicated to pushing the boundaries of what a creative community can be. Their mission centers cultivating an environment for radical experimentation where diverse voices can express, experiment, and intertwine to reveal new forms of connection and collective imagination. SpaceTime Collaborative believes that innovation happens at the intersections, where a parametric structure might nurture a sound-healing journey or where sustainable fashion meets immersive light design.



Jillian Thompson, *she's in bloom*, 2025. Stoneware and bronze. 26 x 1 inches. Courtesy of the artist © Jillian Thompson. **Jillian Thompson**, *icy girl*, 2025. Photo lithograph. 25 x 20 inches. Courtesy of the artist. © Jillian Thompson. Photos courtesy of Jillian Thompson.

Exhibition Overview — Jillian Thompson: Limitless

Community Gallery, February 10 – May 7

Jillian Thompson: Limitless showcases new work by multidisciplinary artist Jillian Thompson that explores the formation of Black womanhood and self-identity. Thompson is interested in how memory and day-to-day experience intertwine to shape personal and cultural expression. Referencing found imagery culled from social media and magazines, Thompson explores the creation of contemporary Black womanhood that plays out in prevailing trends in language, style, and material culture. Examples of Thompson's work across collage, printmaking, and metalwork will be featured.

The exhibition takes its title from Thompson's work *limitless* (2025), which combines painting and collage techniques in a vibrant assemblage made from shoebox lids. Shoebox lids are a recurring theme in Thompson's work, alluding to the aspiration of personal style and the collective participation in a culture of consumption. Thompson's photolithographs often combine image and text to produce narrative portraits of hyper-visual social media personas flashing their individualized looks, as in *icy girl* (2025) and *video phone* (2025). Thompson's handmade accessories, created from bronze and stoneware components, employ shape and color to demonstrate the ways in which visual signifiers are used to construct and communicate self-identity.

Together, Thompson's artworks reveal the ways in which the formation of the self is a social practice that gives rise to continuous exploration, study, and exchange. "As young girls, we recorded music videos on VHS tapes, rewinding and pausing to study the fashion before scouring the mall for similar pieces. These experiences shaped my understanding of Black girlhood and continue to shape my experiences as an adult," says Thompson. "My work honors contemporary Black women, using adornment to explore identity and cultural history."

Thompson received an MFA in Jewelry & Metalsmithing from California State University, Long Beach in 2020.

KLEEFELD CONTEMPORARY SPRING EXHIBITIONS OPENING CELEBRATION



Join Kleefeld Contemporary in celebration of the Museum's spring exhibitions: *Up Close: New Acquisitions*; *SpaceTime Collaborative: Cosmic Bloom*; *Jillian Thompson: Limitless*, and more. Be among the first to see new exhibitions, meet artists, and enjoy music by DJ Rex. Refreshments and drinks are provided. This event is FREE and open to the public.

Date/time: February 19, 2026, 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Location: Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum

Admission: Free and open to everyone, RSVP highly recommended



Photography by Tatiana Mata. © Tatiana Mata, 2025.

Press Contact

For press materials and image requests, please contact:

Ceirra Lark, Junior Communications and Graphic Design Specialist

ceirra.lark@csulb.edu

Erin Stout, PhD, Chief Curator and Interim Co-Director

erin.stout@csulb.edu

About Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum

Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum is a community of people who examine, critique, and create contemporary art and culture. Kleefeld Contemporary develops exhibitions and programs that serve students, campus communities, and the public, and works to build accessible educational opportunities around art and art making. All are welcome to enjoy innovative and multidisciplinary projects in an enriching learning environment.

More information: csulb.edu/museum

Instagram: [@thekleefeld](https://www.instagram.com/thekleefeld)

Free Public Programs

A series of free public programs are offered in conjunction with exhibitions. More information about these programs are available on Kleefeld Contemporary's website.

Community Night: Kleefeld Contemporary is open until 7pm every Thursday with free self-guided art activities in the Museum's Education Lab. We also have Loud Hour from 4:00pm to 5:00pm! Tambourines, kazooos, and earplugs are provided to help you get loud in the galleries.

Second Saturdays: Kleefeld Contemporary hosts art-making activities for all ages and skill levels on select Second Saturdays from 10am – 2pm. Second Saturdays are FREE and open to all. All art making supplies are provided free of charge.

Tours: Kleefeld Contemporary offers tours for college classes and community groups interested in visiting the galleries and the outdoor Art Park. The Museum asks that visitors request tours at least two weeks prior to the preferred visit date. **View more information here:** csulb.edu/carolyn-campagna-kleefeld-contemporary-art-museum/visit

Visitor Information

Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum is located on the lower campus of California State University, Long Beach in the Horn Center building.

Kleefeld Contemporary will be temporarily closed for reinstallation until February 9.

The Museum will reopen with new exhibitions on February 10.

Admission: Kleefeld Contemporary and its events and programs are *free and open to the public*. **Hours:** The Museum is open Monday through Thursday, 10AM – 5PM (Thursday 10PM – 7PM). The Museum is closed Friday through Sunday. The Museum is open on select Second Saturdays from 10AM – 2PM. **Parking:** Parking permits are available for purchase via the [ParkMobile App](#) or in-person at parking pay stations. **Membership:** Visitors can sign up to become a free member when they check in at the front desk.