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Beverly Hills artSHOW Partners With Los Angeles Art Association to Bring Emerging Artists to the Public Bi-Annual Event Takes Over the Heart of Beverly Hills on May 18 & 19

This May 18th and 19th, the Los Angeles Art Association returns to the Beverly Hills artSHOW with three artists new to the bi-annual event. The LAAA is a featured gallery and arts partner to the artSHOW and will present a large-scale, eye-popping installation in Beverly Gardens Park. Sculptor David Jang takes cast-off objects from manufacturing—such as industrial lamps, fax machines, and even potato chip bags—to create sculptures that are at once quirkier and more natural-looking than the product they're made of, although viewers can easily recognize the original mass-produced item.

Peter Mays, Executive Director of the LAAA says, “David’s thrilling conceptual vision and commitment to exploring vibrant new sculptural approaches has quickly distinguished him as one of LA’s most inventive artists.”

Jang himself states that “consumer objects are becoming the new landscape...” and notes that while it was once the job of the artist to create immortal objects about ideas, our consumer culture emphasizes the opposite: disposable objects which we use to express ourselves or feel important for briefer periods.

LAAA, whose booth will be near the Beverly Hills sign next to the artSHOW’s main information booth, will present two other artists at next weekend’s show. Richard Slechta’s work is completely abstract and stripped down: photosensitive paper, light, and pigment are used to represent colorful, bold, spare versions of “extreme states found in devices like electrocardiographs or polygraphs.” Hung V. Nguyen’s detailed, jewel-toned landscapes, called *Mindscapes*, seem direct and nearly child-like at first glance, but upon close inspection the paintings recall many periods and places in art history.

Coagula Curatorial will also bring three edgy artists to the event: Antonio Mendoza, an expressionistic collage artist; Stephanie Mercado, whose work combines the labor of the seamstress with Rococo period outerwear; and, Matthew Weinberg, whose daring work draws on pop art. The Coagula Curatorial gallery is curated by Mat Gleason and will be located at the corner of Canon Drive and Santa Monica Boulevard.

The work of these artists and over 240 more will be sprawled across the four garden blocks of the Beverly Hills artSHOW and each artist will be available to talk with visitors about his or her work. This show’s theme is Games and Puzzles in Art and guests can take part in an elaborate artSHOW puzzle during their visit. Food trucks abound and the artSHOW also features beer and wine gardens that serve food as well as live entertainment throughout the event. Family activities include the artSHOW puzzle, free art lessons and drawing and painting for kids.

artSHOW sponsor Lincoln will highlight the all new MKZ, as well as the MKX, MKT and MKS. Patrons who participate in Lincoln’s Drive and Ride will receive a \$15 coupon to the artSHOW Wine and Dine Garden. Sotheby’s International Realty also returns as an artSHOW sponsor, The Children’s Hospital Los Angeles is the charitable partner and media partners include the *L.A. Weekly*, KPCC, and arts magazines *Fabrik* and *Blue Canvas*.

Produced by the City of Beverly Hills, the spring Beverly Hills artSHOW will take place Saturday, May 18 and Sunday, May 19, 2013. General Show hours are 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. All activities occur at the historic Beverly Gardens and admission to both days is free. Beverly Gardens is located along Santa Monica Blvd., from Rodeo Drive to Rexford Drive. Free all-day parking is available during the artSHOW at the City’s 450 N. Crescent Drive parking structure, conveniently located directly across from the Show grounds. For more information, please visit www.beverlyhills.org/artshow or call 310.285.6830.

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