

Brand 49

Debra Thompson

PRESIDENT, CHAIR OF BRAND 49

THE HIGHLIGHT of the year for the Brand Associates is our Annual National Juried Exhibition of Works on Paper. Last year, due to pandemic restrictions, the only way to experience the 48th Works on Paper show was on a computer—a virtual gallery, a virtual catalog and an opening ceremony via Zoom webinar. We were happy with the results and received compliments for our efforts from many artists, art lovers and Associates. But it just wasn't the same...

We are happy to announce that *Brand 49* will return to the Brand Gallery with an opening on Saturday, September 11! Just what that opening will look like remains to be determined; we will follow the city of Glendale's guidelines for access to public facilities which will certainly be changing during the next two months. What is certain is that we will find a way to gather at Brand to celebrate the artistic skill and vision that are exemplified by the artists included in the exhibition. We also plan to continue offering virtual access to elements of *Brand 49*, as we did last year. Keep your eyes peeled for updates via email!

Planning for *Brand 49* began in January of this year, a time when the economic and physical toll of the pandemic was becoming increasingly apparent and alarming. What, we wondered, had been happening to artists when galleries and museums were closed and opportunities for artists to have their artwork seen by an appreciative public were limited? It was clear to us that *Brand 49* could and should try to offer that opportunity particularly to young and/or emerging artists. To that end, we reduced the cost of entering artworks into *Brand 49* and offered an option to completely waive fees. We must have done something right because this year saw a record number of artworks submitted for consideration—1,268! Twelve percent of our artists chose to waive fees. Even with this change in our fee structure, *Brand 49* is a significant source of funds for programming supported by the Associates.

We are excited to return to Brand for the variety of art and cultural offerings that we all know and love. Let's celebrate on Saturday, September 11 at the opening of *Brand 49*!

OUR JUROR - MARVELLA MURO

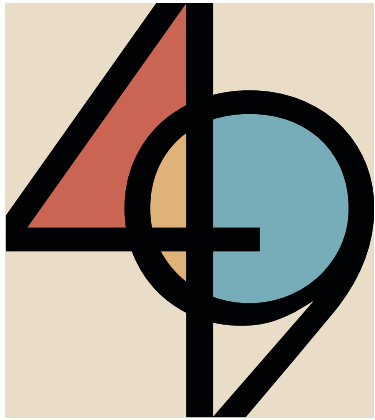
The juror for each Works on Paper exhibition is asked to do the almost impossible: from hundreds of entries, choose 100, give or take, to be included in the exhibition at Brand Gallery. Each juror brings their unique experience as both arts professional and art lover and each must find time in their busy schedule to look carefully at every submission, often several times! Every show is different and reflects the choices made by the juror based on their personal aesthetic sensibility and what each finds important or appealing in content.

Our juror for *Brand 49* is no stranger to art that is striking both visually and intellectually. Marvella Muro is the Director of Artistic Programs and Education at Self Help Graphics and Art (SHG), a 501(c)3 non-profit located in Boyle Heights. SHG is an important and admired organization that serves to promote and encourage Chicana/o and Latina/o art in Los Angeles and beyond, with a stated vision to be the pre-eminent center for Latino art in printmaking, exhibition and training, as well as a resource for young and emerging artists.

Muro has experience in art education and curatorial administration at Los Angeles County Museum of Art and at the USC Pacific Asia Museum in project management and the development of public programs. At SHG, she oversees and implements exhibitions and leads the long-standing Professional Print and Summer Youth Programs and the Barrio Mobil Art Studio (BMAS), all part of an approach to art that is multidisciplinary and community oriented.

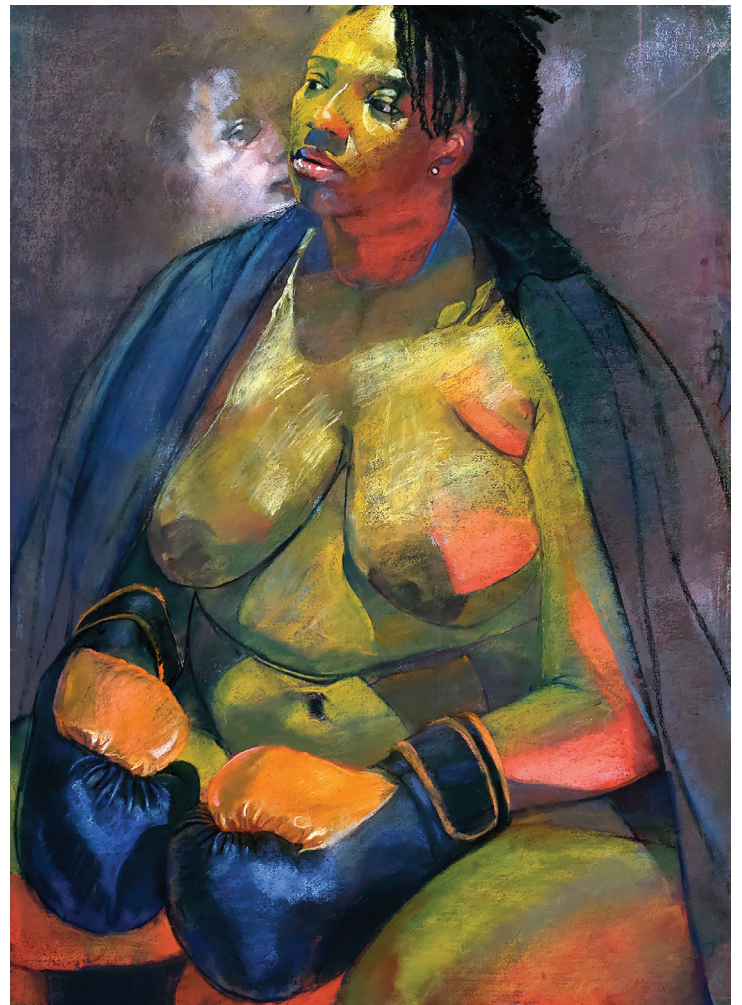
We welcome Marvella and thank her for the time and energy that goes into the careful selection of artworks for our Annual National Juried Exhibition of Works on Paper now in its 49th year.





BRAND 49: A SNEAK PEEK

As of press time for this newsletter, we have not received all the images that were accepted into the show. However, Exhibitions Supervisor Shannon Currie Holmes has shared a selection of the images she has gotten, and we're happy to share a few of those with you.





In the Gallery

Shannon Currie Holmes

EXHIBITIONS SUPERVISOR

AS WE CAUTIOUSLY EMERGE from quarantine and do our best to resume normal life, the Brand Exhibitions team hopes to be part of your post-COVID recovery. How fitting that our first in-person exhibition is our popular Annual National Juried Exhibition of Works on Paper now in its 49th year and returning to the physical gallery space after its successful virtual run in 2020.

Our second show of 2021 opens on Saturday, November 6th and it marks an important milestone for one of California's most important and enduring art organizations. Women Painters West is celebrating their 100th anniversary with *A Century of California Women Artists*, an exhibition which commemorates the heritage, challenges and accomplishments of women artist members of Women Painters West for the last 100 years. Established in 1921, Women Painters West members have achieved great success and acclaim both nationally and internationally, including Mabel Alvarez, Kathryn Woodman Leighton, and Elsie Palmer Payne.

Today, Women Painters West is a diverse, multi-generational group of 200 women artists. It is a non-profit organization that has educational, benevolent, fraternal and charitable objectives. It awards scholarships to art students in southern California, assists community art programs and enriches and enhances members' professional opportunities. Brand Library & Art Center is honored to be hosting the centennial celebration which will feature artwork from over 125 current Women Painters West members. We look forward to seeing all of you back in the gallery and continuing to support our programming online.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:

John Calabrese, *The Pilgrimage-Take to the Sky, Supernatural High*, 2018. Graphite pencil on paper, 16 x 20 in.

William Dooley, *Stall*, 2020. Oil pastel on paper, 19 x 14 in.

William Ner, *Environment Friendly*, 2020. Graphite on paper, 30 x 22 x 1 in.

PREVIOUS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:

Laura Klopfenstein, *Blunt*, 2021. Collage, acrylic and graphite on paper, 12 x 18 x .05 in.

Martin Beck, *Study For a Boxer 2*, 2020. Mixed media on prepared paper, 42 x 29.5 in.

Janet Badger, *Callisto*, 2019. Mezzotint with linoleum, 12 x 7 in.

Dance Series 2021

Caley Cannon

SENIOR LIBRARY, ARTS & CULTURE SUPERVISOR
BRAND LIBRARY & ART CENTER

THE BRAND ASSOCIATES Dance Series returned in 2021 with three virtual performances and interactive workshops! Dance performances at Brand Library began in 1974 with a modern dance performance in the gallery, designed to complement and enhance the exhibition. In 1976, the Associates were awarded a grant from the California Arts Council to establish an annual dance program featuring dance companies in Southern California and this popular series has

cultural heritage, artistic director Malathi Iyengar creates dance landscapes that dwell in both traditional and secular, and rhythm and stillness.

VERSA-STYLE, promoting the empowerment,

artistry, and value of hip-hop dance culture

through street dance theater productions, educational performances and deeply rooted social justice work in the community.

MIXED EMOTION presents *Gatsby Redux*, a vintage yet contemporary dance experience presenting an artistic interpretation of the 1925

novel *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald.

Thank you Brand Associates members for sponsoring these exciting performances and supporting the performing arts in Glendale! Brand Library & Art Center will welcome applications for the 2022 season this fall. Details will be available at www.brandlibrary.org.

Photos: Erin Herzog



been held annually since then. The Series presents top dance companies from Southern California performing site-specific work in non-traditional performance spaces around Brand Library & Art Center.

This year's performances included:

RANGOLI DANCE COMPANY features 'Bharatanatyam' the vibrant dance form that has its origins in south India. Drawing from the myth and spirituality of the



Join us!

UPCOMING IN-PERSON EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR, and plan to join us for these free member events. Visit our website to register:
associatesofbrand.org

FRIDAY, JULY 9, 7-8:30 p.m. — *Something special for you!*

President Emerita Arlene Vidor and current President Debra Thompson invite you to join them in listening to Antaeus Theater Company's Zip Code Play *\$10 and a Tambourine*, followed by a conversation with the playwright, an actor from the play and Antaeus' artistic director.



SATURDAY, JULY 24, 2-3:00 p.m.— Art Wandering

Join Brand Associates and the Adams Hill Neighborhood Association on Saturday, July 24 at 2 p.m. for an opening reception and performance for *Lumpen Station*, a new exhibition at the Adams Square Mini Park Gas Station by artists Beck + Col.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 5:30 p.m. — Art Wandering

Tufenkian Fine Arts will host a Brand Associates event. We will tour the gallery and enjoy the *Crossroads, Crossings, and Convergence* exhibit, which closes on August 21.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 10-noon — Art Wandering

Visit the Forest Lawn Museum in Glendale for a guided tour of *Judson Studios: Stained Glass from Gothic to Street Style* with Curator James Fishburne. This visually stunning, informative, and surprising show is not to be missed and James has a wealth of knowledge to share. After the tour we will have pastries and coffee in a lovely outdoor setting.

Watch for additional information and sign-up directions in early August. Limited to 20 members due to space restrictions in the gallery.

We have other Art Wanderings in the planning stages for summer and fall, so look for information coming your way via email.

AN ART WANDERING WITH Beck + Col

SATURDAY, JULY 24, AT 2 PM

ADAMS SQUARE MINI PARK GAS STATION
1020 E. Palmer Ave., Glendale, CA 91205

PLEASE JOIN BRAND ASSOCIATES and the Adams Hill Neighborhood Association for an Opening Reception and Performance for *Lumpen Station*, a new exhibition at the Adams Square Mini Park Gas Station by artists Beck + Col (July 12 – August 20).

We will experience a short performance by the artists at 1020 E. Palmer Ave, view the exhibition and mingle, and then head over to KAFN for those who want to purchase drinks and nibbles and visit further.

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE

For this special event, the artists will inhabit their wearable sculptures in a performance they describe as: "A sole monster is trapped in a ritual as they circumambulate a lumpen shrine. A ghostly spectre sings a haunting aria to disrupt the seemingly endless cycle."

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Beck + Col are a Los Angeles based artist duo who have been working exclusively in collaboration since 2014.

Beck received an MFA from CalArts in 2019 and Collin received an MFA in New Genres from CSULA in 2014.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED! Please register at <https://artwanderingbeckcol.eventbrite.com>



Photo by Rafael Hernandez

And please note: This is an in-person outdoors event and all COVID safety protocols must be followed. If you are not fully vaccinated, please wear a mask.

For more information on the event, scan this QR code:



Interview with Caroline Lais Tufenkian

Tammy O'Connor

VICE PRESIDENT

CAROLINE LAIS-TUFENKIAN is the owner and director of Tufenkian Fine Arts (TFA), which was established in Glendale in 2015. The gallery presents and connects audiences to excellence in contemporary art through a dynamic exhibition schedule, Artist Talks, and publishes high quality catalogs with essays by leaders in the art world.

Caroline also serves as a Commissioner on the city's Arts and Culture Commission, and is a former Board member of the Brand Associates.

Tell us a little about your background and your focus in the arts.

I studied Art History and received my Master's Degree from Cal State Northridge. My mentors and advisors allowed me to do my thesis on Armenian artists working in the Diaspora. There was little research in this area, and I was able to interview cultural figures, artists and historians. The first exhibit I did was an open studio house exhibit by artist Seta Manoukian. I also helmed exhibits in various places around Los Angeles, along with the Brand Library and Cal State Northridge. We were raising our three boys at the time.

What led you to open up the gallery?

I was constantly looking for new spaces to exhibit art. After twenty years of experience with amazing artists and exhibitors, I knew it was time to have a space of my own. I'm so excited to have the gallery in Glendale. We opened our first space on San Fernando Road in 2015, and moved to our present location on Louise in 2017.



Photo: Wayne Shimabakuro

With your Arts Commissioner lens on, how do you see the city pivoting in the Arts?

The Arts Happens Anywhere (AHA) program has had amazing results, from selection, installation, to reviews. This will continue. Additionally, an arts consultant (LeBasse Projects) will bring ten sculptural installations around the city. We will be seeing a huge increase in the arts in the urban setting here in Glendale. More and more people from other adjoining cities are now recognizing that more art is happening in our city. I can see this with visitors to TFA.

What are your thoughts about the Brand Library?

The gallery and library are the jewels in our city. They offer an amazing cultural center for Glendale and the Southern California region. To be known to have the finest arts and music library and gallery is an important issue for the city. I served on the board of the Brand Associates when the library was

being renovated. It was a very exciting time. There's no doubt that Shannon and the Brand staff are bringing world-class artists to the library.

What do you see for the immediate future of Tufenkian Fine Arts?

TFA has really grown. I come across so many amazing artists! We now represent a base of sixteen artists and have numerous artists whom we show. We have a fantastic show coming in October titled *Multifaceted* with John O'Brien. This show will pair up our gallery artists who have specializations – such as calligraphy, or the use of language – with outside artists.

Our next exhibit, *Crossroads, Crossings, and Convergence*, opens July 21st. The show grew from a conversation between artist, educator, curator and activist Fatemeh Burnes and myself as we discussed doing a women's show, then honed in on women's immigrant artists. Fatemeh is from Iran. My father is Swiss, my mother is Armenian. I've lived in Iran and Switzerland, so I'm bringing my life experience to the show. We're featuring female artists from diverse ethnicities, from Europe, Angola, Mexico and beyond. The show speaks to the theme that we all feel we're not 100% here or there – we are all world citizens.

What do you say to people who may feel that some fine arts galleries are a bit intimidating?

People should not feel intimidated by going to a gallery. Galleries are for communities. Galleries invite dialog and interaction and thrive when people talk about the work that they've seen. Some people do feel intimidated, but people should enjoy the work and know that cultural dialogue and community engagement is just as valued as purchases of art.

JOIN US on Tuesday, August 17 at 5:30 p.m. for an Art Wandering visit to Tufenkian Fine Arts. We will tour the gallery and enjoy the *Crossroads, Crossings, and Convergence* exhibit, which closes on August 21.

Brand Associates Memberships Connect People

JOIN OR RENEW TODAY!

BRAND ASSOCIATES members play a significant role in developing and expanding our creative and lively cultural community.

Your philanthropic donation allows our nonprofit to support Brand Library & Art Center staff as they organize a variety of cultural programs in one of southern California's unique architectural settings. Memberships provide direct funding for artists, dancers, musicians, and other creative folks through the 'free-to-the-public' scheduled concerts, dance performances, exhibitions, and other events. Members are also invited to take part in special events and 'Art Wanderings' created exclusively for Associates.

There are four membership levels to choose from and we invite you to visit our updated online membership page which is designed to streamline the process. The auto-renewing feature guarantees that you will stay up to date on all events and maintain your membership so it is always current. We are pleased that many members have already joined and renewed through our website online!

We appreciate memberships at all levels, as every member is a vital contributor to the growth and sustenance of Brand's programming. Thank you for your valuable support and involvement!

JOIN US at: <https://associatesofbrand.org/membership/become-a-member/>

Art Cards

IN EARLY JANUARY, we published sets of four note cards featuring striking photographs of Brand Library taken by the talented José Aguilar. We made them for our members, but a limited number of these beautiful cards are now for sale on our website. The price is \$15.00 for four cards and envelopes, which includes shipping. Purchasing the cards supports programs at the Brand.

To order cards, visit our web site:
<https://associatesofbrand.org>



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LEVEL	ANNUAL	MEMBER BENEFITS
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We need volunteers! If you're interested, check this box and we will contact you.

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