

Brand 51: More Than Just Art

OPENING NIGHT of Brand 51 was a wonderful event replete with music, food and drink, and a large gathering of artists, their supporters and friends, and art lovers. Juror Ara Oshagan chose 96 artworks out of the 1200+ entries to create an exhibition that pleased the eye and challenged the intellect. The artworks lived up to the high standards of past years by demonstrating new, creative uses of paper as well as engagement with current social and political issues. Many artists expressed their appreciation for the quality of the installation and the beauty of Brand and its gallery space.

Of course, none of the above is new! The high quality of Brand 51 is the product of many hours of work by the Associates Board and Brand Gallery staff all of whom are intent on providing an optimal experience for both artists and visitors. But there's more here than meets the eye...

In a Juror's Statement included in the Brand 51 catalog, Ara Oshagan identifies the important role that exhibitions like Brand 51 play in the larger art world. He identifies this municipal art space as "...a kind of oasis where work without apparent commercial value can be displayed and celebrated." Understanding that artists face many obstacles to success,

he states: "Being included in a very competitive juried show, like Brand 51, gives an artist a certain momentum that can buoy them up and keep them ever so slightly aloft."

Over the years, the Brand Works on Paper exhibitions have launched new careers and celebrated



Juror Ara Oshagan, co-curator of ReflectSpace Gallery at Glendale Central Library, in Brand Gallery on opening night. (Photo: Ian Kose)

established ones, all within a framework that is outside the demands of the marketplace. There is freedom in this for both artists and jurors and allowed Ara to choose artworks that balanced the aesthetic with the social and political.

The Associates can and should be very proud of 51 years of our Brand exhibitions and the role they have played in the larger art community.

BRAND 51

The Paper preView and Opening Night events were well attended and greatly enjoyed.

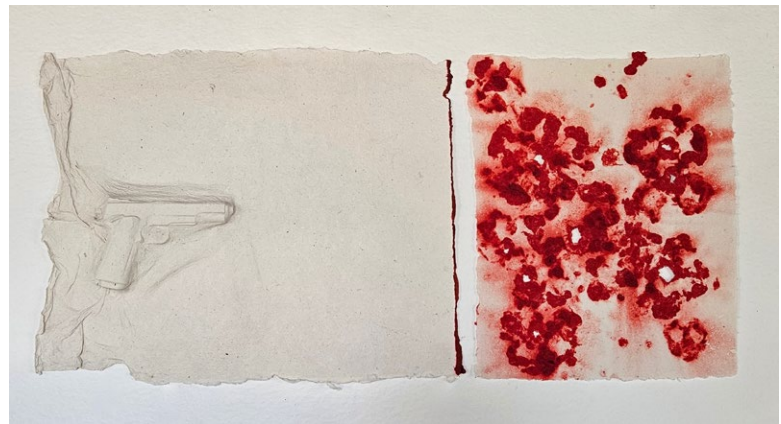
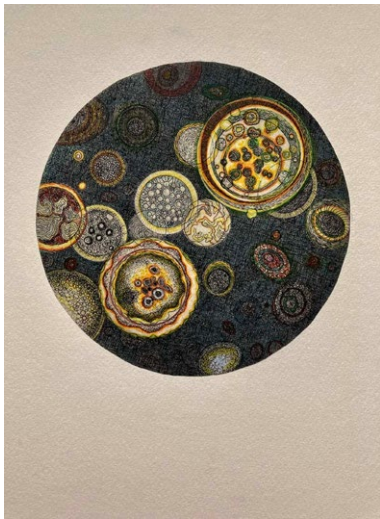


Among attendees was Glendale Mayor Dan Brotman, with Michele DiNardo.

At left: Brand 51 exhibition catalogs were offered for sale at the Opening — and a few remain. If you'd like to purchase one (and support Brand Associates) please visit our web site: associatesofbrand.org/store

Photo at left: Valerie Taylor; all others: Ian Kose

BRAND 51
AWARD
WINNERS



1 Juror Award: Victoria Arriola, *Faint Murmur-ings*, Used paper tea bag panels suspended over organic material, 6.5' x 4' x 11'

2 Robert Brown Award: Jared Barbick, *Coffin load of 9 left behind*, Woodcut printed on Kozo paper, 15" x 29" x 1"

3 Jane Friend Award: Anne Pearce, *Western Blue*, Ink, pen and acrylic on paper, 50" x 14'

Brand Associates Awards:

4 Rebecca Youssef, *Agrifolia*, acrylic, cyanotype and salt on recycled paper bag, 41.25" x 40.25" x 1.75"

5 Tallmadge Doyle, *Night Bloom*, line etching, handcoloring, 14" x 11"

6 Marianne Sadowski, *The Fine Line*, Handmade cast paper, tinted pulp, 20.5" x 48"

ArtWandering

SOME OF THE educational and community-building perks of being an Associate are the Art Wandering events offered during the year. These are focused, smaller gatherings where members are invited to different venues in the region for expanded art experiences.

On Saturday, June 17, 2023, we were invited to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) for a special tour of the landmark exhibition: “Sam Francis and Japan: Emptiness Overflowing.” The exhibition focused on the internationally acclaimed California Abstract Expressionist artist, Sam Francis (1923–1994), and his lifelong affinity with Japanese art and culture that influenced his work. On view were artworks by Francis as well as historical and contemporary artworks by Japanese artists.

The group in attendance was given a personal tour by LACMA Docent Paula Hess as well as a surprise opportunity to meet one of the exhibition’s curators, author Richard Speer (from



Exhibit Curator Richard Speer, Paula Hess, Debra Burchett-Lere

Portland, Oregon). Associates Board member Valerie Taylor summarized the tour as “a blending of information and expertise of the docent... the curator...and the astute comments of everyone who

participated...presenting this unique opportunity to gain insight into the world of Sam.”

After viewing some highlights of the show, we had an opportunity to ask the curator questions and speak with Debra Burchett-Lere, Executive Director of the Sam Francis Foundation that sponsored the tour. Members were able to explore the other galleries at the museum during the day and some even stayed and enjoyed lunch at one of the outdoor cafes.

Look for future events planned and join us in these special gatherings with your fellow members. It’s a great way to learn more about our cultural community and make new friends!



THE BIG SCREENS:

ONE INSIDE, ONE OUT

100 Years of Cinema Under the Stars

THIS SUMMER, the Brand Associates joined forces with the Alex Film Society, The Glendale Historical Society, and the Northwest Glendale Homeowners Association to bring our members a series of three outdoor screenings, each commemorating a 100th anniversary in Hollywood history. The screenings have been held on the lawn of the Doctor's House at Brand Park.

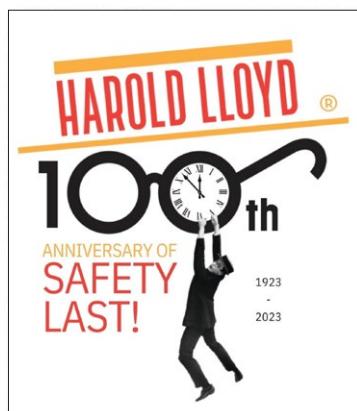
Disney Studios was founded October 16, 1923, and to celebrate its centennial, the first film of the series was the 1951 animated classic, *Alice In Wonderland*. J.P. O'Connor, daughter of Disney animator Kendell O'Connor (and sister-in-law to our own Board member Tammy O'Connor), spoke about her father's contribution to the film. Also in attendance was Disney animator Frank Gladstone who gave a short history on Disney Studios and the production of *Alice In Wonderland*. As an additional bonus before the main feature, the 1923 Disney short *Alice In Wonderland* — Walt's first attempt at the Lewis Carroll story — was screened.

On August 26, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Warner Bros., the second evening featured the 1945 Glendale-centric classic, *Mildred Pierce*. As a special surprise, we raffled off a selection of fruit pies from Kenneth Village's French Bakery.

Our final film of the series will be held on Saturday, September 30. We have collaborated with Retroformat to present the Harold Lloyd silent classic, *Safety Last*, complete with live musical accompaniment by their music director,

Cliff Retallick. The film is 100 years old this year and as a special treat Suzanne Lloyd, Harold's granddaughter, will give a talk before the show.

Our screening of *Safety Last* will be held at the Doctor's House in Brand Park. Gates will open at 5:30 pm and the program will begin at 7:00 pm. Admission (and popcorn!) is free. We welcome you to bring a picnic, blankets and chairs, and enjoy dinner on the lawn.



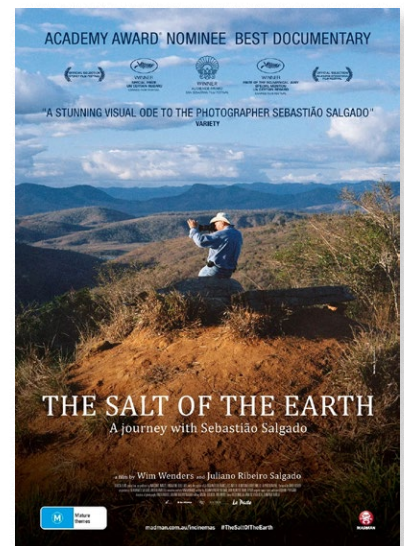
Reel Art Film Series Always Gets Real

THE BRAND ASSOCIATES' REEL ART FILM SERIES will host a screening of *The Salt of the Earth* on Thursday, October 12 at 6:00 pm in Brand's Recital Hall. This visually stunning look at the life and work of Brazilian photographer Sebastião Salgado discusses his forty years of documenting societies in hidden corners of the world. A lively post-film discussion will include contemporary photographers Ara Oshagan and Ken Marchionno.

REEL ART originated eleven years ago and found its niche in the screening of limited release documentaries exploring cultural issues and the arts. Then Associates Board member Teri Deaver and President Arlene Vidor, created the series with enthusiastic support from Brand. The initial offering on April 18, 2012 was *Grandma's Tattoos*, a film by Suzanne Khardalian which focused on the abuse suffered by her grandmother, a survivor of the Armenian genocide. The Associates went on to screen sixteen memorable gems, each followed by audience discussion led by the filmmakers or thought leaders on the topic.

In 2017, screenings were halted because Brand's audiovisual equipment required a much-needed upgrade. This proceeded slowly but, oddly, the pandemic helped move the project along when Brand closed to the public in 2020. With the upgrade completed, in 2022 the Associates restarted REEL ART on a very warm June evening, screening the award-winning *No Straight Lines: The Rise of Queer Comics* to a packed and enthusiastic house and followed by an engaging panel discussion.

The history of REEL ART is one of engagement with the community. Many of the films screened were suggested by Associates members and film buffs. Partnering with organizations such as The Glendale Historical Society and LA Film Forum has added depth to the offerings. The Associates is thrilled to have REEL ART co-founder and President Emerita of the Associates, Arlene Vidor, returning as volunteer coordinator of REEL ART. Please show your support of this impressive cultural offering by joining us on October 12!



JOIN US!

Thursday, October 12, 6:00 pm
Brand Library Recital Hall

ARTful CONVERSATIONS

HANDS-ON AT BRAND

THE PROGRAM at ARTful Conversations starts with a spirited gallery walk-through with art historian, Valerie Taylor, who situates specific works from our changing exhibitions in an art historical context and invites participants to engage with the art works as vehicles of powerful visual messages and expressions. Poet Tina Demirdjian builds on that, leading attendees to write a poem. Below is an example, written in response to Elena Stonaker's artwork, *Celestial Mama*, pictured here.



Heart Strings

Why do your long arms
curl around the night sky?

Venus shines as just one star
high above hot pink LA
just a flash of light in the universe.

Once a month
red roses bloom,
fragrant petals fall across the gazebo.
Still no child to hold
in your big lap.

Pamela A. Miller

Join us at an upcoming artful conversation. All programs take place from 6–7:30 pm in the galleries in Brand Library & Art Center.

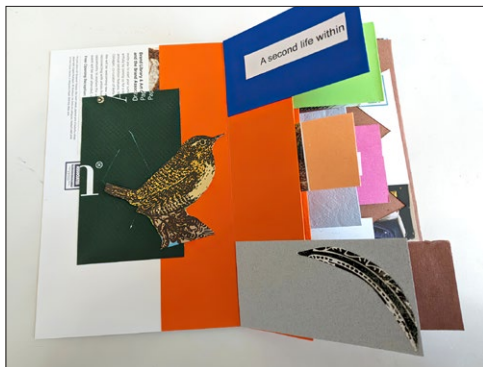
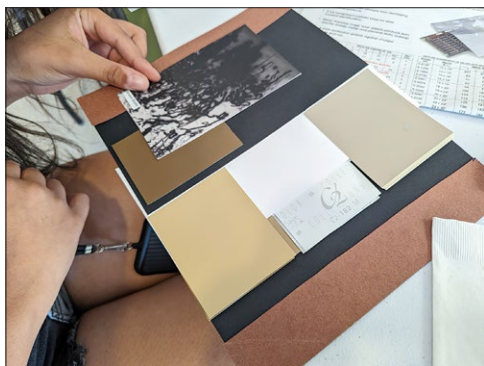
Wednesday, October 4, 2023

Wednesday, November 8, 2023

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Thursday, January 25, 2024

A BOOKMAKING WORKSHOP was held on August 12, led by B51 artist Debra Disman. Great creativity on display!



DANCE PAST AND MUSIC FUTURE



In April and May the **BRAND ASSOCIATES DANCE SERIES** brought four companies to Brand. Shown (left to right) are Megill & Company, Psychopomp Dance Theater, Kenneth Walker Dance Project, and Bernard Brown/bbmoves.



October 5
ACE Trio

Shannon Canchola, flute
Micah Wright, clarinet
Leon Thomasian, piano

Continually pushing at the edges of what it means to be a contemporary chamber ensemble, ACE performs their own innovative arrangements and accessible contemporary music by living composers from around the world. The trio has won many awards and performed on concerts throughout Southern California.



October 19
Ensemble Flame

Eric Tinkerhess, viola da gamba
Mana Tinkerhess, triple harp
Robert Wang, theorbo

Ensemble Flame is composed of instruments that were at the heart of the king's court in France in the 17th and 18th centuries. Dedicated especially to French music, Ensemble Flame transmits the instruments' warmth by imagining the music as a poem, appeasing our wavering spirits invaded by the passions of the soul.



In October and November the **BRAND ASSOCIATES FALL CONCERT SERIES** returns to the Recital Hall. All events are on Thursday nights, and commence at 7pm.



November 9
Daniel Miles, viola

Cameron Akioka, piano

Daniel is a graduate of Oberlin Conservatory and USC. Most recently he won the 2023 Beverly Hills Auditions and is a teaching artist at the Youth Orchestra Los Angeles. Cameron is a graduate of Rice University and USC. She won both the silver medal and the audience favorite award at the 2022 Seattle International Piano Competition.



THE ASSOCIATES HELP BRING SO MUCH TO THE COMMUNITY!



THE SUMMER MUSIC SERIES held its final concert in late August, and was enjoyed by the many hundreds of attendees. Thanks to the Brand staff who arranged for these fabulous events, and the artists who performed:

Blue Breeze Band, Maria Blues, Greg Hosharian & Armenian Pops Ensemble, Lizzy & the Triggermen, Megan Shung Ensemble, Murphy's Flaw, Alan Chan Moo-sic Group, and Eva and the Vagabond Tales

MUSIC ANIMATED is a family-oriented program that presents interactive performances suitable for all ages! The most recent event was CHAZZ's Whimsical

Safari. CHAZZ Ross brought 26 African djembe drums, on which attendees created jungle sounds, played simple rhythms and sang silly songs together.



ART TALK TUESDAY is a monthly conversation that invites contemporary artists to discuss their work and the issues surrounding it, followed by a moder-

ated Q&A with Brand staff member, artist, and writer Jennifer Remenchik.

The series will resume on September 5; here's the fall schedule:

- September 5: **Ting Ying Han** — Interdisciplinary Artist
- October 3: **Ian James** — Artist & Photographer
- November 7: **Hayley Barker** — Painter
- December 5: **Ray Anthony Barrett** — Visual Artist & Chef

MAKE IT! is a hands-on crafts program for all ages that gives participants a chance to express themselves! Each program is limited to 25 participants. Programs are held in the Brand Library Courtyard. At press time no events were scheduled, but check for information on this and other activities at brandlibrary.org/programs



Meet Stacie London

**Exhibition Production Specialist
at Library, Arts and Culture**

STACIE LONDON'S PASSIONS have guided her on a unique path. Lucky for us, they have led her to her current position as an Exhibition Production Specialist for the Library, Arts and Culture Department. This broad title allows Stacie to tell stories at the Brand and Reflect Space galleries, whether it's by curating an exhibition, designing the graphics, executing the art installations, or being a creative collaborator with artists.

Stacie has had an interesting variety of life experiences that bring her to where she is today. Her great-grandmother was a sculptress who often made overseas trips to diverse populations, infusing her travels in her work with marble and wood. Stacie's grandmother owned an antique store in Beverly Hills, where she introduced her granddaughter to impressive collectible objects at a very young age. Stacie's father, a mechanical engineer, brought her into his technical world where he challenged Stacie to fix everything and anything. It's no wonder that the connection between her hands and her brain became her strength. With a master's degree in industrial design from Art Center, Stacie entered the world of design-build, eventually supervising constructions that needed an art director to interpret the architect's vision.

Before becoming MOCA's exhibition designer, Stacie had a gallery in Silverlake. In her seven years at MOCA, she



installed over eighty exhibitions and managed all of the museum's architectural drawings. Working with Chris Burden and his revolutionary motorcycle-powered artwork *The Big Wheel*, led her to purchase her first racing bike and was the beginning of her passion for vintage motorcycles as both a builder and racer.

After racing all over the country, Stacie was named Lady [sic] Road Racer of the Year in 2015 and today holds five land speed records. Having surpassed her goals, she decided to take her problem-solving skills and incredible tenacity back to the world of art. When she landed at the Brand, she saw that the venue was a true reflection of her native Los Angeles: different people from different backgrounds coming together to tell the story of multidisciplinary art.

Today, Stacie continues to challenge herself both at work and as a triathlete. Her third triathlon, in Malibu, is approaching this fall. She is also co-curating a new exhibit at Brand, *It's About Time*, which will be on view from September 23–November 22. Come meet this renaissance woman at the opening on September 23 from 6-9 p.m. or, if you're lucky, you might catch her running the trails of Griffith Park or swimming at the Rose Bowl Aquatic Center. On land or in the water, Stacie is truly unstoppable.

Farewell, Nicole

IT IS WITH GREAT SADNESS that the Associates says goodbye to Nicole Pasini who, for the last 3+ years, has been the Assistant Director of the City of Glendale's Library, Arts & Culture Department. In that capacity Nicole has been a friend and advocate not just of the Associates but of all cultural programming at Brand. A calm and clear communicator, we have valued her guidance and her support for freedom of artistic expression in these contentious times. We thank her and wish her the best wherever her path takes her.

Debra Thompson
President, Associates of Brand



LAST BUT NOT LEAST

Our Book and Music Sale

FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 2018, the Associates held our popular Book and Music Sale at Brand on Saturday, March 11.

Long a favorite of collectors and the curious, this year's sale included five years' worth of materials that we have been waiting to offer to the public. All proceeds go to support the programs at Brand that you know and love.

We plan to make this an annual event — as it was for so many years, pre-Covid — so keep your eyes peeled for news of next year's event, likely around the same time of year.

**Art & Music
Books
CDs
Auction Catalogs
& More!**

**Prints
LPs**

VOLUNTEER APPEAL

Your support of the many programs sponsored by the Associates is important to their success.

Please contact Debra Thompson at debra@associatesofbrand.org for more information and to volunteer.

Thank you!



Support the Arts in Glendale

Keep your Brand Associates Membership current — or join us!

FROM ROCK AND FOLK PERFORMANCES

on the lawn in summer, classical music concerts in winter, a dance series, family workshops, and stunning art exhibitions in its spacious galleries, Brand Library is a thriving center for arts and culture in Glendale all year round. The incredible and dedicated staff of the Library go above and beyond to produce these rich cultural presentations on top of building their award-winning music and arts collection and library services to the community.

More than 50 years ago, members of the Glendale community formed Brand Associates in order to support the cultural activities and staff resources of the Brand, because we deeply value this place and want to see it well supported. The pandemic has hit us all hard, and community membership organizations like Brand Associates are needed more than ever to help our libraries, some of our most crucial public resources, expand and thrive.

Please urge your friends and family to become members today, or give a gift membership to support the important Brand Library cultural programming. For just a few dollars a month, this can ensure that these programs will last to enrich generations to come. Plus, they will get exclusive Brand Associates member news, invitations to special members-only Art Wanderings and opening receptions, and they will become part of a community of engaged Glendalians who truly care about the future of our city.

Visit associatesofbrand.org/members to join or renew today.

WHO WE ARE — THE 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Tammy O'Connor

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