CLAREMONT — Pomona College Museum of Art is pleased to announce a special event celebrating the release of the “R.S.V.P. Los Angeles: The Project Series at Pomona” publication. The book release party will take place at the Museum during Art After Hours on Thursday, Oct. 29, from 5-11 p.m. Books will be available for sale and refreshments will be served. The event is free and open to the public.

“R.S.V.P. Los Angeles” celebrates the milestone of 50 Project Series exhibitions and features seven artists—Justin Cole, Michael Decker, Naotaka Hiro, Wakana Kimura, Aydinaneth Ortiz, Michael Parker and Nikki Pressley—and is unified by a unique curatorial process. The exhibition is on view from Sept. 1 to Dec. 19, 2015.

The book release party will include a series of roving events and performances created by “R.S.V.P. Los Angeles” artists that uniquely respond to the exhibition and are staged in the galleries of the Pomona College Museum of Art, the Museum courtyard, and the curatorial spaces in adjacent Rembrandt Hall. The tentative schedule is below. Please see www.pomona.edu/museum for up-to-date information.

Events and Performances Schedule
5:30-5:45 p.m. Michael Parker Juicerina Concert – Museum Galleries
6-10 p.m. Michael Decker Thrift Shop – Rembrandt Hall 2nd Floor
6-10 p.m. Wakana Kimura Interactive Incense Burning – Rembrandt Hall 2nd Floor
7-9 p.m. Aydinaneth Ortiz Printmaking Workshop – Rembrandt Hall 2nd Floor
7:30-7:45 p.m. Michael Parker Juicerina Concert – Museum Galleries
9-10 p.m. Justin Cole DJ Set and Drinks for the D – Museum Courtyard
10-11 p.m. Art After Hours Live Music provided by DJ Tom Nook – Museum Courtyard

Available for sale at the event, the publication for “R.S.V.P. Los Angeles” is designed by Kimberly Varella of Content Object and contextualizes the art of the late 20th and early 21st century in Los Angeles through the lens of the Project Series. The 276-page hardcover book includes an essay on the history of the Project Series by Pomona College Museum of Art Senior Curator Rebecca McGrew; an encyclopedic essay by Pomona College Museum of Art Curator of Academic Programs Terri Geis on themes connected to the seven exhibiting artists; texts on each of the seven artists by McGrew and Geis as well as artist and Pomona College Professor...
of Art Lisa Anne Auerbach, critic Doug Harvey, Pomona College Museum of Art Director Kathleen Howe, Pomona College studio art major Nicolás Orozco-Valdivia, Getty Research Institute Curator of Modern and Contemporary Collections Glenn Phillips, Pomona College Professor of Africana Studies and English Valorie Thomas, and critic and writer Sarah Wang; and an annotated chronology of the Project Series exhibitions 1 through 50 by McGrew and Pomona College Museum of Art curatorial assistant Ian Byers-Gamber.

About “R.S.V.P. Los Angeles: The Project Series at Pomona”

To celebrate the Project Series and to broaden the curatorial perspective, a committee comprised of Pomona College faculty, students, and Museum staff collectively determined the artists, exhibition strategies and publication content. The committee consists of McGrew, Geis, Auerbach, Byers-Gamber, Jonathan M. Hall (Pomona College Assistant Professor of Media Studies), Orozco-Valdivia and Thomas.

The curatorial committee invited seven previous Project Series artists: Christina Fernandez, Charles Gaines, Ken Gonzales-Day, Katie Grinnan, Soo Kim, Hirokazu Kosaka and Amanda Ross-Ho, to nominate two emerging or lesser-known artists whose work contributes to the contemporary art dialogue in Southern California. No other criteria were given, in order to encourage a broad and diverse pool of nominated artists. Through a combination of research, studio visits and intensive discussion, the committee selected the seven artists. Unified by this curatorial process, serendipitous connections emerged between the artists’ work: an interest in the archive and documentation, the use of storytelling and theatricality, the delights of obsessive drawing practices, examinations into troubling recent history, spiritual openness and exploration, and commitment to craftsmanship. Their work includes drawing, installation, photography, sculpture, social practice art, sound art and video.

The Project Series at Pomona College 1999-2015

Created by Pomona College Senior Curator Rebecca McGrew, the Project Series focuses on emerging and under-represented Southern California artists. Its intent is to bring to the Pomona College campus art that is experimental and that introduces new forms, techniques or concepts. The Project Series has enhanced the Museum's role as a laboratory for exploring innovative, cross-disciplinary collaborations and ideas and as a catalyst for new knowledge.

Museum Information

The Pomona College Museum of Art collects, preserves, exhibits and interprets works of art; and houses a substantial permanent collection as well as serving as a gallery of temporary exhibitions. Important holdings include the Kress Collection of 15th and 16th century Italian panel paintings; more than 5,000 examples of Pre-Columbian to 20th century American Indian art and artifacts, including basketry, ceramics and beadwork; and a large collection of American and European prints, drawings and photographs, including works by Francisco de Goya, José Clemente Orozco, and Rico Lebrun.

ADMISSION

All exhibitions and programs are free of charge and open to the public.
GENERAL INFORMATION
330 North College Ave.
Claremont, CA 91711
Tuesday through Sunday, 12-5 p.m., Closed Mondays

Art After Hours: Thursday, 5-11 p.m., Sept. 3 – Dec. 3, 2015

Art After Hours offers a variety of programming including live music concerts sponsored by KSPC 88.7 FM, lectures, panels, workshops, tours, film screenings and performances in conjunction with Museum exhibitions.

For more information, please call 909.621.8283 or visit www.pomona.edu/museum.