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Museum of Art Examiner Max Donner

Tale of a City at Los Angeles Art Fair

When LACMA CEO Michael Govan hosted a discussion at the Los



Angeles County Museum of Art Wednesday night, he described all of art history as a narrative. That is what you will see at the [Los Angeles Art Fair](#) this year, according to Bryson Strauss, a participant in the fair's LA Art Machine Program. Says Strauss, "this art show talks about the narrative of art for the last 500 years."

The LA Art Machine Program will give you a good idea why a visit to the Los Angeles Art Fair this weekend is also a good idea. You will see exhibits you could not see anywhere else. The range is large -- rarely seen art from guest country Uruguay, galleries from Europe and Asia, a special exhibition of art from Los Angeles Sister Cities, contemporary calligraphy and the LA Art Machine Program itself.

The LA Art Machine Program, called Vox Humana, shows contemporary artists painting murals while you watch. They began when the show opened Wednesday night and will finish this Sunday afternoon. The program includes an exceptional example of "vintage contemporary" style, reminiscent of master works from the Bauhaus School you can see in the modern art collection at LACMA. Seeing this should be especially timely to visitors who attended Michael Govan's auditorium discussion, where he highlighted the importance that LACMA and other top museums place on providing creative inspiration for contemporary artists.

In addition to an excellent selection of Fine Art Dealer Association

Galleries, you can also see a refreshing recent newcomer to the Los Angeles Art Fair, [Blue Rain Gallery](#) of Santa Fe, New Mexico. They gallery represents several Native American artists who fuse traditional designs with the sophisticated fabrication skills of today's leading contemporary artists. Here are two examples to give you an idea -- traditional Tlingit tribe motifs in blown glass by Preston Singletary (*below left*), a bronze three panel suite by Tammy Garcia, portraying deer in the wilderness (*below right*).



Visiting an art show also shows you how world class gallery directors select and display art to create an appealing presentation. Betina Tasende of West Hollywood's [Tasende Gallery](#) shared her experience with Examiner.com readers. As she explained, effective gallery displays at art shows often feature one of two popular formats. The

first is the one artist show, as described on my recent article on [Photo LA](#). The second approach is to display works of sculpture that stand out and anchor the booth and complement the display with paintings that contrast and highlight the other artwork on display, as you see below. You will see many other effective art displays at this year's Los Angeles Art Fair and that's one more reason you should be sure to visit it this weekend.