LA ART SHOW OFFERS PLATFORM FOR NEW VOICES IN CONTEMPORARY ART WITH FOURTH EDITION OF CROWD-FAVORITE LITTLETOPIA

JANUARY 12-15, 2017

Los Angeles, CA– Among the features that make the LA Art Show a draw for both serious collectors and art enthusiasts is a reliably accessible mix of works from modern masters to emerging voices. The nucleus for the latter can be found in the Show’s Littletopia section, consistently among the most-trafficked areas of the fair.

Conceived three years ago by Noah Antieau of Red Truck, who sought an “antithesis show,” Littletopia is now a vibrant showcase for ascendant independent galleries. Befittingly, the section is marked annually with a large archway, this year created by dark surrealist artist Liz McGrath and Julie Beezy of Pretty in Plastic, who collaborated on the concept, design, fabrication and installation installing. Three chandeliers by Adam Wallacavage, who is known for his octopus inspired lighting designs, will also be featured.
Red Truck, which is based in New Orleans, will bring the work of several American and international artists, including Andrés Basurto, Jason Borders, Bryan Cunningham, Mab Graves, Katie Winchester, Butch Anthony and Tom Haney.

Greg Escalante will present works by Esther Pearl Watson, Shepard Fairey, Jeff Gillette, Sandow Birk, Jorge R. Gutierrez and F. Scott Hess from his Gregorio Escalante Gallery and under the Copro banner, works by Alexandra Manukyan, Chris Mars, Amandine Urruty, Olivia, David Stoupakis and Travis Louie.

Paradigm Gallery + Studio from Philadelphia will bring an all-female line-up of artists to the Show, with works by Caitlin McCormack, Sarah Louise Davey, Hilary White, Nicomi Nix Turner, and Lauren Rinaldi. Other highlights this year include Artists Republic 4 Tomorrow (Laguna Beach).

**LITTLETOPIA AWARDS**

Continuing its tradition of recognizing key figures within the local and international arts community, LA Art Show is again pleased to present Littletopia awards at a presentation that will be held on Thursday, January 12th at 6:00PM with LA Art Show producer Kim Martindale making opening remarks and Greg Escalante presenting the following awards:

**CURATOR OF THE YEAR**

Britt Salveson has been the curator and head of the Wallis Annenberg Photography Department and the Prints and Drawings Department at LACMA since 2009, where she curated Catherine Opie: Figure and Landscape (2010); Ed Ruscha: Standard (2012); Robert Mapplethorpe: The Perfect Medium (2016); and Guillermo del Toro: At Home with Monsters (2016).

**LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**
Mel Ramos is an American Pop artist best known for his female nudes painted alongside brand logos. Ramos was one of the first artists to embrace Pop art in the early 60s and his work is in the permanent collections of the Whitney Museum of American Art, SFMOMA, and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, among others.

COLLECTOR OF THE YEAR
Ben Goretsky is a Los Angeles native who currently owns and operates 3D Retro, a collectible art-toy store in Glendale which sells and produces collectible art figures. He has helped support the creative community by founding and running the annual show DesignerCon in Pasadena.

A series of satellite Littletopia events include a VIP dinner at Little Jewel of New Orleans on Thursday, January 12, 2017 followed by an after party on Chung King Road to celebrate Mel Ramos’ Lifetime Achievement Award from 8:30-11:00 pm. Presented by Juxtapoz Art Magazine and Littletopia with the LA Art Show 2017, the Chinatown street party is open to the public and will feature a special guest DJ set by Flavor Flav and a musical performance by MRK. Collector of the Year honoree Ben Goretsky will host a private party at his home on Friday, January 13, 2017 followed by an afterparty that is open to the public at 3D Retro.

Image credits from top: Mel Ramos, Hunt’s, 2013, lithograph, edition of 199, 22 × 18.5 inches, Phil Cohen photography, courtesy Red Truck Gallery and LA Art Show; Butch Anthony, Why, 2016, Paint and thread on canvas, 73 × 56 inches, courtesy Red Truck Gallery and LA Art Show; Mab Graves, Alice! Serpent, 17.5 × 18.5 inches, Oil on hardboard, courtesy Red Truck Gallery and LA Art Show

LA Art Show 2017 Opening Night Premiere Party - Wednesday, January 11, 2017
Patron Reception $250, 7pm–11pm
Vanguard Entrance $200, 7pm–8pm
Friend level $125, 8pm–11pm
Purchase tickets at laartshow.com

LA Art Show 2017, January 12-15, 2017
January 12, 13 and 14, 11am – 7pm
Sunday, January 15, 11am – 5pm

General Admission Ticket Prices - per person
One Day Pass: $30 – Receive $5 discount if purchased online in advance
Four-Day Pass: $60 – Received $5 discount if purchased online in advance

Red Card
Red Card provides access to a complimentary, VIP, invitation-only advance preview of the Show received through gallery, museum, or non-profit participants. Red Card preview 3pm–5pm, Wednesday, January 11, 2017

Social Media
Facebook: /LA Art show Twitter: @LAArtShow Instagram: @laartshow/@littletopia

LA Art Show 2017 takes place at:
Los Angeles Convention Center, 1201 South Figueroa Street West Hall, Los Angeles, CA 90015

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