

2019 Left Coast Annual Opens at Sanchez Art Center

Sanchez Art Center is proud to present the *2019 Left Coast Annual Juried Exhibition*, juried by Scott A. Shields, Associate Director and Chief Curator of the Crocker Museum of Art in Sacramento. The opening reception will be held on Friday, April 12, 7–9 pm. Music for the reception is by Blue on Jazz, featuring Rob Wullenjohn on guitar, Paul Clanon on upright bass, Jack Kerns on drums, and Roy Sturgeon on saxophone. *Left Coast* Juror Scott A. Shields will give a Juror's Talk and hold a Gallery Walk on Saturday, April 13, at 2 pm. The *Left Coast Annual* will fill Main and West Galleries.

In the East Gallery, the two exhibition award winners from 2018 are showing their work. Tracy Child and Pouké Halpern were each selected for an exhibition award by 2018 juror, Claudia Schmuckli, Curator in Charge for Contemporary Art and Programming at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco.

Tracy Child's oil paintings have a depth and emotional appeal belied by her images of everyday things—peppers, cars, palm trees, scenes with people. Her masterly use of color reverberates throughout, giving her subjects substance and gravitas. In the midst of the joy of such rich and vibrant colors, Child's subjects become larger than life, almost statuesque. This is indeed paint used well! As the artist says, "Art, Color and Beauty are key elements of life in any culture. I try to paint the beauty I see in my life."

In contrast, Pouké Halpern's acrylic paintings are not quite hidden under layers of white overwash, giving a slightly ghostly appearance. One wonders, is it there? Where did it go? Did I dream that? The artist calls her approach to art subterranean, meaning that she begins a work without an intellectual construct, and follows the thread of her muse. Interestingly, she begins these works by filling the canvas with bold, rich colors, working the paints with abandon and joyousness. Then, as she says, she reaches a point where it is too much, and then begins the process of calming the scene down by adding in the softness of white.

Come to the reception on April 12 to experience these strong exhibitions of contemporary art from the left coast, as well as all the fascinating new works selected by juror Scott Shields. Then come to the Juror's Talk and Gallery Walk the following day, Saturday, April 13 at 2 pm, to learn more. The exhibits will be on view through May 19.

On Friday, May 3, 7–10 pm, Sanchez Art Center will hold SAC Art Interact, an evening of unique art engagement that will pop up throughout the Art Center, against the backdrop of *Left Coast Annual*. This fundraiser supporting Sanchez Art Center will offer art activities, including being part of an art installation, creating a work together, and observing a painting being created live to music. Mark your calendars, and bring your phones for fun selfie opportunities!

Sanchez Art Center is at 1220 Linda Mar Boulevard in Pacifica, about a mile east of Highway 1. Following opening night, the galleries are open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 1–5 pm, or by calling in advance to set a time, through May 19.

