



DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
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MEDIA ALERT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Municipal Art Gallery Presents:

EARTHQUAKES & AFTERSHOCKS

LOS ANGELES, CA—The Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) and the California Institute of Arts (CalArts) is pleased to present ***Earthquakes and Aftershocks***, an exhibition featuring 64 posters designed and made by CalArts graphic design students. The exhibition is curated by Louise Sandhaus and Jérôme Saint-Loubert Bié. The exhibition will take place at the Municipal Art Gallery located in Barnsdall Art Park.

Artwork will be available for viewing beginning Friday, May 4, 2007 until Sunday June, 24, 2007. The opening reception will take place on Sunday, May 6 from 2:00 until 5:00 p.m.

Earthquakes and Aftershocks is a traveling exhibition recently arrived from France following showings at Galerie du Cloître et Ecole des Beaux-Arts de Rennes, and the Musée des Arts Decoratifs at the Louvre Museum. The works displayed cover a period of nearly 20 years, and represents a visual archive of the many artistic events held at CalArts such as lectures, exhibitions, concerts, performances, and film screenings. More importantly, the exhibition represents an evolving view regarding the artistic contribution made by graphic design media toward the visual arts.

Curator and CalArts alumna and faculty member in the Graphic Design Program, Louise Sandhaus selected the pieces in the exhibition from thousands of posters, choosing works that represent an antithesis to the early idea that graphic design could not innovate or generate excitement. According to Sandhaus, the ***Earthquakes and Aftershocks*** selected works “are distinctive because of their innovation and ability to generate a visual thrill.”

With few exceptions, such as a work combining stencils and spray paint, the technique employed for the artwork is silkscreen. The wide variety of paper ranging from newsprint and envelopes to bookbinding and wallpaper, and the individual typeface used by the designers represents a critical perspective on two decades of popular and political culture.

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(EARTHQUAKES-Page 2)

Limited edition silkscreen posters created for Earthquakes and Aftershocks will be available for sale at the exhibition.

The exhibition website will launch April 11, 2007 at www.posters.calarts.edu.

The Municipal Art Gallery is located at Barnsdall Park: 4800 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, 90027. The Gallery is open Thursday through Sunday, from 12:00 noon until 5:00 p.m. Hours are extended until 9:00 p.m. on "First Fridays." For general gallery information, please call 323.644.6269.

About the California Institute of the Arts

The nation's first art institute to offer BFAs and MFAs in both the visual and performing arts, CalArts is dedicated to training and nurturing the next generation of professional artists, fostering brilliance and innovation within the broadest context possible. Emphasis is placed on new and experimental work and students are admitted solely on the basis of artistic ability. To encourage innovation and experimentation, CalArts' six schools-Art, Critical Studies, Dance, Film/Video, Music and Theater- are all housed under one roof in a unique, five-story building with the equivalent of 11 acres of square footage in Valencia, California, just 30 minutes north of downtown Los Angeles.

About the Department of Cultural Affairs

The Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) generates and supports high quality arts and cultural experiences for residents and visitors to the City of Los Angeles. DCA advances the social and economic impact of the arts and assures access to arts and cultural experiences through grant making, marketing, public and community arts programming, arts education, and creating partnerships with artists and arts and cultural organizations in every community in the City of Los Angeles.

DCA grants \$3.4 million annually to over 300 artists and nonprofit arts organizations and awards the Artist-in Residence (A.I.R.) and City of Los Angeles (C.O.L.A.) Individual Artist Fellowships. It provides arts and cultural programming in numerous Neighborhood Arts and Cultural Centers, theaters, and several arts and education programs for young people. The Department directs public art projects and manages the City's Arts Development Fee, Art Collection, and Murals Program. DCA markets the City's cultural events through development and collaboration with strategic partners, design and production of creative promotional materials, and management of the culturela.org website.

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