



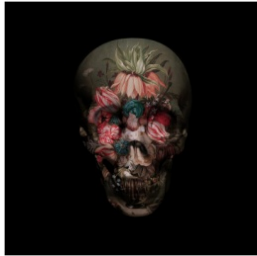
HUNTINGTON BEACH ART CENTER
...where art meets community

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

September 15, 2016

**Huntington Beach Art Center Presents Memento Mori: Skulls & Bones in Art:
An International Survey Exhibition Exploring the Celebration of Life & Death in Art**

***Memento Mori: Skulls & Bones in Art*
September 24 – November 5, 2016**



Pictured from left: Image: Magnus Gjoen, *Everything Ends with Flowers*, 2015; giclée on 308 gsm cotton rag, 70 X 70 cm.; MP Gautheron, *Geode Skull*, 2015; plaster skull with geode stone, 17 x 12 x 7 cm.; Ryan Milner, *Strawberry Melon*, 2009; acrylic on wood panel, 6 x 6 in.; Roberto "Beto" Janz, *Broken Decks/ SKULLS*, 2015; broken skateboard deck, 17 x 8 x 2 in. ea.

Huntington Beach, CA – The Huntington Beach Art Center is pleased to present *Memento Mori: Skulls & Bones in Art*. The exhibition features local, national, and international artists, whose work incorporates images and objects of skulls and bones exploring classic images from the Renaissance period to new expressions in contemporary art. Emerging curator Phil Roberts brings an extended look at a new generation of artists exploring the concepts of life, death and the afterlife through thought-provoking contemporary works. The exhibition will be on view from September 24 – November 5, 2016. The opening reception is September 24, from 6-9 pm.

This international survey will showcase works from Australia, Canada, Germany, France, London, and artists from throughout the United States with local artists from Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Orange County, CA. As this exhibition delves into the concept of Memento Mori, or the Latin translation: "Remember (that you have) to die," it will reveal the unique introspective techniques these artists implement to engage viewers in the concepts regarding life and death. The exhibition will incorporate a celebration of the *Día de los Muertos*, Day of the Dead, in collaboration with the Oak View Renewal Partnership and has received generous support from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Lester Foundation.

Kate Hoffman, Executive Director at the Huntington Beach Art Center states: "This truly remarkable exhibition has taken on a life of its own, with more than 35 artists participating and with a joyful partnership with the Oak View

community. By including a public *ofrenda*, we will share the depth and meaning of Memento Mori with our two communities and bring awareness of the joy of the Day of the Dead cultural celebration.”

The concept of Memento Mori, or *Día de los Muertos*, will play a significant role in the manifestation of this exhibition. Steeped in thousands of years of history and tradition, this celebration usually occurs at the beginning of November and is seen as a celebration of life and a triumph over death where deceased loved ones are given back to their families and friends for a brief time. The Huntington Beach Art Center will be honoring these traditions by inviting the public to participate in this cultural celebration with the construction of altars in one of its on-site galleries throughout the entire exhibition. Several free, family events are planned in conjunction with the exhibition. Family Arts Day is October 9 and the Day of the Dead celebration will take place on October 29. Workshop activities, music, food, and a screening of the film “The Book of Life,” along with the presence of the film’s director Jorge Gutiérrez will cap off the Day of the Dead October 29th celebration. The list of participating artists includes Chaz Bojorquez, Antar Dayal, Paul Frank, Jeremy Fisher, Angie Jones, Sergio Barrale, Cam Rackam, Laurie Hassold, Rick Rietveld, Jeff Soto and more.

Memento Mori: Skulls & Bones in Art will be a moment to reflect and honor the lives that we have lived and the lives of those that have passed by experiencing new and exciting iterations of contemporary art that spans art history.

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Media Contact: **Huntington Beach Art Center**
Jennifer Minasian, Arts Marketing Coordinator
jennifer.minasian@surfcity-hb.org | (714) 536-5258

Curator

Phil Roberts, www.philroberts.com

Exhibition Credit



Huntington Beach Art Center Information

Gallery Hours

T-Th: 12-8PM | Fr: 12-6PM | Sat: 12-5PM
Closed Sun, Mon & most holidays.

538 Main Street | Huntington Beach, CA 92648
(714) 374-1650 | artcenterstaff@surfcity-hb.org
<http://www.huntingtonbeachartcenter.org/>