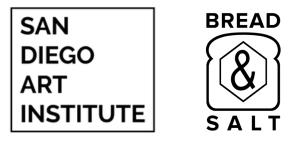
Joint media release -



San Diego Art Institute, Bread & Salt and City of San Diego Collaborate for *SD Practice* Exhibition

San Diego, CA – The San Diego Art Institute (SDAI) and Bread & Salt will co-present *SD Practice*, a public art exhibition of the acquired artworks by the City of San Diego (City) through the recent initiative of the <u>same name</u>. Co-organized with the City's Commission for Arts and Culture, the exhibition will showcase the nearly 100 artworks purchased in support of the local arts ecosystem during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On view collectively for the first time at SDAI and Bread & Salt, these works reflect recent developments in local artistic practice, representing works acquired in 2021 through the City's *SD Practice* initiative for the Civic Art Collection and funded through the bequest of art collector Thomas O. Rasmussen. As a sampling of the diverse practices pursued by San Diego artists, this exhibition reaffirms institutional interest in supporting local artists and publicly exhibiting contemporary art for all to enjoy.

"We are thrilled to be collaborating with the City of San Diego and Bread & Salt to support our local arts community! This exhibition is a reflection of the potential that an investment in the arts can drive creativity and inspiration throughout our city, by addressing some of the most important and challenging topics of our time," said the show's co-curator and Executive Director of Lux Art Institute, Andrew Utt.

SDAI and Lux Art Institute are merging to create the Institute of Contemporary Art, San Diego, and opening fall 2021 under Utt's leadership. The presentation of the exhibition at SDAI is co-curated by Utt and Lux Art Institute's Associate Curator, Guusje Sanders.

"Bread & Salt is excited to serve as host to *SD Practice*. This initiative supported our local artists directly in their time of greatest need. It is an honor to invite the working artists of our region, both north and south of the border, into our building. For many it will be a return trip, and for that we are humbled and proud," said Jim Brown, founder of Bread & Salt. Curator Thomas DeMello and Artistic Director Isabel Dutra curated the presentation of the exhibition at Bread & Salt.

The exhibition format for *SD Practice* also provides an overarching framework that traverses aesthetic categorization. Many of the artists represented focus on their creative processes while investigating the conceptual possibilities and materials of artistic media ranging from figurative painting to sound and the moving image.

Whether exemplifying narratives through painting and sculptural form, or non-linear explorations of time and space, the work of eighty-nine artists on view responds to the rapidly evolving times in which we find ourselves, interpreted through different perspectives and approaches. SDAI and Bread & Salt's co-presentation of *SD Practice* forms a decentralized group exhibition that begins to reveal the rich diversity of artistic talent and expression in San Diego.

"The artworks in the *SD Practice* exhibition comprise an unparalleled acquisition by the City to expand the Civic Art Collection," said Christine E. Jones, the City's Chief of Civic Art Strategies. "SDAI and Bread & Salt have a shared history of supporting the work of local artists and this exhibition allows us to celebrate and showcase the works collectively before placement in civic spaces across the city. I'm happy to work closely with SDAI and Bread & Salt to organize this meaningful exhibition to grow awareness of San Diego artists and help support them at such a difficult time."

The exhibition is free and open to the public in San Diego's diverse and distinct statedesignated cultural districts, in Balboa Park at the San Diego Art Institute and in Barrio Logan at Bread & Salt. Artworks will be on display at these two San Diego cultural hubs until September 5, 2021 and then moved to be presented alongside other Civic Art Collection works throughout the City's public places, such as libraries, civic buildings and park facilities.

Venues and Dates

Venues: San Diego Art Institute (SDAI) and Bread & Salt Exhibition Dates: July 10 - September 5, 2021 Admission: Free

About SDAI

The San Diego Art Institute (SDAI) was founded in 1941 and is a premier contemporary art center that delivers access to new, contemporary art to thousands of residents and visitors through high quality, interactive programming, education and exhibitions. A focus of the organization has been the promotion of cultural equity and artistic enrichment within the San Diego county community and the nurturing of groundbreaking art by providing a dedicated exhibition space for the talent that resides in Southern California and Northern Baja. SDAI is located at 1439 El Prado in Balboa Park.

Open Friday - Sunday from Noon – 4 p.m., please RSVP through the website. For more, <u>sandiego-art.org</u>.

About Bread & Salt

Bread & Salt is a 45,000 square-foot gallery and experimental center for the arts with strong community ties. Bread & Salt hosts original works by local and international artists, eclectic events and a curated assemblage of artisans, educational entities and non-profit tenants - alongside a robust residency program and publishing house. It is comprised of multiple gallery, studio and event spaces, and serves as a cultural hub and gathering place for the region's creative community. Bread & Salt is located at 1955 Julian Avenue in Barrio Logan.

Open Tuesday – Saturday from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. For more, <u>breadandsaltsandiego.com</u>.

About the City of San Diego Civic Art Collection To learn more about the Civic Art Collection visit <u>www.sdcivicartcollection.com</u> or <u>Commission for Arts and Culture</u> website.

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