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## LA Art Scene During The Lockdown



Willie Snake, 1985, acrylic on canvas (three panels) by Charles Garabedian, Outside
the Gates at LA Louver Gallery online exhibition.
Photo Courtesy LA Louver Gallery.

My friends, with so much uncertainty these days, we need more than ever to get positive art news and experiences. This morning, I received delightful news from <u>LA</u>

Outside the Gates, is done in collaboration with Betty Cuningham Gallery in New York. If you had the chance to see Garabedian's works at LA Louver Gallery, which represented him for more than 40 years, you will always remember his colorful and highly theatrical compositions inspired by Biblical stories and Ancient Greek mythology. In 2011, Santa Barbara Museum of Art honored Charles Garabedian with a sprawling retrospective covering a half-century of his art making. I have to admit that this online exhibition gives an authentic sense of joy that I remember experiencing seeing his works in person.



Charles Garabedian, *Study for the Iliad (4 warriors)*, 1992, acrylic on paper. Image Courtesy LA Louver Gallery.



Installation view of Andrea Zittel. *Works* 2005 – 2020. Regen Projects, Los Angeles July 13 – August 21, 2020. Photo Courtesy of Regen Projects.

architecture and design. This is the 7th exhibition of Andrea Zittel with Regen Project, and it covers the last 15 years of her career. Every time I encounter Zittel's art, I dream about traveling to Joshua Tree to see her home/studio/art project, occupying 70 acres of the High Desert. One day I will... Just a reminder, her exhibition at Regen Projects is open by appointment only.

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Nir Hod, The Life We Left Behind (1), 2019, oil paint under chromed canvas, 112 x 78 inches. Photos Courtesy Kohn Gallery.

The email from Kohn Gallery introduced me to its exhibition of paintings and sculptures by the Israeli born, NY based artist, Nir Hod (b. 1970). This is the first West Coast presentation of this internationally shown artist. Hod's large-scale, abstract compositions have a particular way to engage a viewer, who finds his or her reflection in the mysteriously mirrored surface of the painting. I am looking forward



Zoe Walsh,  $Night\ rips$ , 2020, acrylic on canvas-wrapped panel, 24 x 24 inches. Photo Courtesy M+B Gallery.

The information that I received from M+B Gallery about its solo exhibition by LA artist, Zoe Walsh (b. 1989), inspired me to go for a gallery visit. Walsh's luminous paintings, with its cyan, magenta and yellow glazes have a laid back elegance. The longer you look at them, the more secrets are revealed. Shannon Richardson, Gallery Director, walked me through the exhibition and told me about the complicated process involved in making these mixed media paintings that include usage of photographic images from porn magazines. I learned that a proper way to refer to Zoe Walsh- a transgender queer artist- is not "he" or "she," but "they." Watching



Zoe Walsh discusses their exhibition "I came to watch the morning" Video Courtesy M+B Gallery.



Inside Lita Albuquerque's studio in Santa Monica. Photos by Edward Goldman.

And talking about studio visits. A few days ago I had the chance to visit Lita Albuquerque's studio in Santa Monica. She invited me to see a series of her small stone sculptures that she made in preparation for her site-specific, monumental sculpture installation at the Japanese Garden, inside the <a href="Huntington Library"><u>Huntington Library</u></a>, <a href="Gardens and Art Museum">Gardens and Art Museum</a>. Last week in my ArtMatter's newsletter I wrote about her

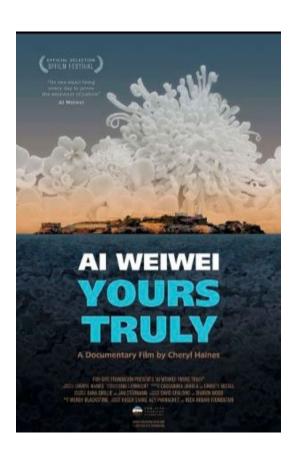
hear Mother Nature speaking to me...

## **Not To Be Missed**

This **Friday**, **6:30-7:30 EST**, The American Institute of Architects, Cocktails & Conversation is hosting a conversation with Jason Kauffman, arts journalist and Kulapat Yantrasast architect to discuss the topic of the Future of Museums. Click here to register.







As a cultural highlight of last year, we in Los Angeles were lucky to have three exhibitions by Chinese dissident artist, Ai WeiWei. Now we can learn more about him and his art from the new documentary, *Ai WeiWei: Yours Truly.*Click here to watch.

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