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Making Time

MAY 9, 2021 – SEPTEMBER 12, 2021



Betye Saar, *Red Clock Tower*, 2011
Mixed media assemblage, 27.75 x 13.25 x 7 in (70.5 x 33.7 x 17.8 cm)
Courtesy of the artist and Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, California
Photo. Robert Wedemeyer © Betye Saar

LOS ANGELES—*Making Time* brings together ten Los Angeles-based artists who have been instrumental in Craft Contemporary's recent history. These ten artists' work have served as touchstones for the museum in expanding its definition of craft—traditionally understood through the materials of clay, wood, metal, fiber, and glass—by interrogating the history and meaning embedded within each material. The exhibition includes Tanya Aguiñiga, Uzumaki Cepeda, Beatriz Cortez, Keiko Fukazawa, Katherine Grey, Gronk, Sherin Guirguis, Betye Saar, Timothy Washington, and Ann Weber. All of the artists featured in *Making Time* have been pivotal over the course of the museum's history, not only in terms of their artistic importance in Craft Contemporary's exhibition history but also as individuals who have challenged the institution to think in different ways.



Some artists, such as Ann Weber (*Ann Weber: Love and Other Audacities*, 2011), Keiko Fukazawa (*Made in China: New Ceramic Works by Keiko Fukazawa*, 2016), and Katherine Grey (*Katherine Gray: As Clear as the Experience*, 2018), have prompted Craft Contemporary to reconsider the limits and uses of materials with their deep investigations into craft's material history. Others, such as Gronk (*Gronk's Theatre of Paint*, 2016), Uzumaki Cepeda (*Daydreaming by Uzumaki Cepeda*, 2018), and Tanya Aguiñiga (*Crossing the Line: A Space by Tanya Aguiñiga*, 2011), have encouraged the museum to reexamine the role of physical space—as not just important, but central, to activism—through their use of immersive installations in social practice and community-based artwork. Finally, the critical works of artists such as Betye Saar (*Betye Saar: Keepin' It Clean*, 2017), Timothy Washington (*Timothy Washington: Love thy neighbor*, 2014), Beatriz Cortez (*Beatriz Cortez: Trinidad / Joy Station*, 2019), and Sherin Guirguis (*Sherin Guirguis: Of Thorns and Love*, 2018), whose practices all engage with histories of oppression, have pushed the institution to reexamine itself and its own history.

In tracing the relationship between the artist and the institution, *Making Time* pays homage to its importance as the central pillar in forming a collective vision of craft in Los Angeles. “Just as materials are the building blocks of craft, relationships are the building blocks of an institution. As we emerge from the uncertainty and isolation of this past year, it is important to make time to recognize these relationships – remembering what was learned to inform the future,” says Exhibitions Curator Holly Jerger.

Making Time is an opportunity for Craft Contemporary to revisit the relationships established throughout the institution's exhibition history and continue an ongoing dialogue, together. The exhibition calls attention to the fact that artists shape the institution, as much as it is the other way around, in a dynamic of mutual learning that creates the civic space upon which the museum is founded.

CREDITS

Making Time has been organized by Craft Contemporary Exhibitions Curator Holly Jerger. This exhibition is supported in part by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture and a grant from the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs.

Craft Contemporary

Located on Los Angeles' historic Miracle Mile since 1965, Craft Contemporary reveals the potential of craft to educate, captivate, provoke, and empower. With a focus on contemporary art made from craft media and processes, Craft Contemporary presents dynamic exhibitions by established and emerging artists and designers who are often underrepresented in larger art institutions. Through a robust roster of regular programs and events, Craft Contemporary offers creative opportunities for the public to participate in hands-on workshops led by professional artists. Craft Contemporary cultivates an environment for people in Los Angeles to deepen their relationship to art, creativity, and one another. For more information, visit www.craftcontemporary.org.

LOCATION: 5814 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036

ADMISSION: FREE every Sunday

REGULARLY: \$9 for adults; \$7 for students, teachers, seniors; free for Craft Contemporary members

HOURS: (through the month of May) Thursday - Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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