Carnegie International 1999/2000: Gallery Guide

CI:99/00

Laura Owens/27

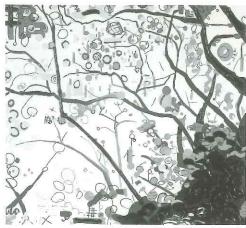
Born 1970, Euclid, Ohio, U.S.A. Lives and works in Los Angeles

Laura Owens's paintings are often grandly scaled and remarkably varied in the application of paint to canvas. The four works on view here include passages of expressive abstraction, washes of pale color that stain unprimed canvas, and thick ribbons of pigment resting on the paintings' surfaces. Although Owens's paintings are inspired by any number of visual sources, she acknowledges film, computer, and television imagery among her influences—all media that create illusion through precisely defined shapes on flat surfaces. The relationship of paintings to their physical environment and how they are experienced by viewers are important considerations for Owens. According to the artist's directions, her two-panel numbers painting. Untitled (1999), is installed on opposite walls, engaging the three-dimensional space of the gallery. In this way, the viewer, standing between the mirror-image canvases, occupies the virtual space of the work of art.

Edward Ruscha/28

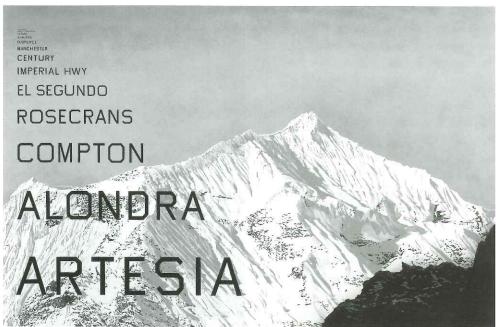
Born 1937, Omaha, Nebraska, U.S.A. Lives and works in Los Angeles

Edward Ruscha has remained an important figure in American art since the early 1960s



Laura Owens, Untitled, 1998

when his artwork first came to the fore as part of the West Coast Pop Art movement. Since that time, he has continued to develop his signature style, which combines words and images on the same visual field. In his recent work, represented in this exhibition, Ruscha juxtaposes airbrushed and painted images of the sublime in nature with words from daily language, specifically Los Angeles street names. By doing so, visual and verbal means of communication coexist and create a sense of friction. The words conjure mental images that do not necessarily describe what the eye actually sees in the painting, and the painted image of nature functions as a symbol or sign, much like words conventionally do, for society's sometimes unrealistic ideals.



Edward Ruscha, Artesia, 1998

Carnegie Museum of Art/Pittsburgh Nov 6, 1999 - Mar 26, 2000

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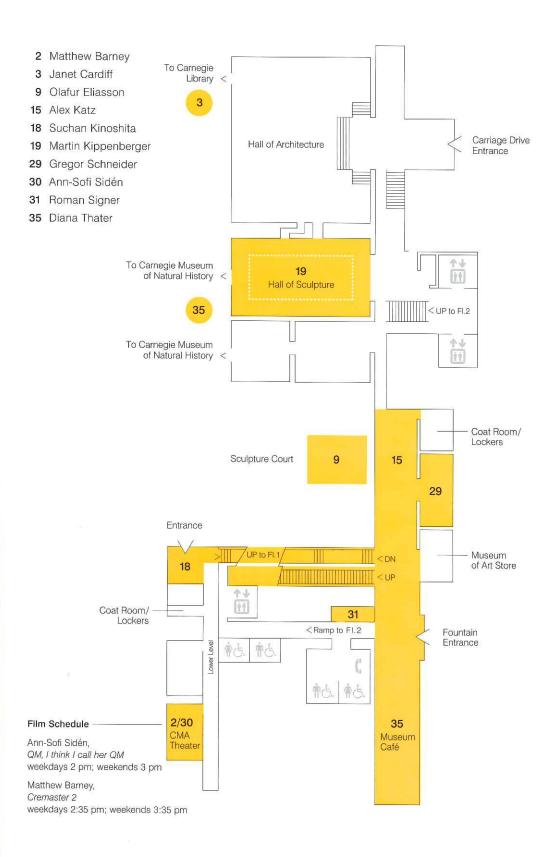
Welcome to the 1999 *Carnegie International*. The 53rd in a series of exhibitions that began in 1896, the *International* is North America's premier survey of contemporary art. This exhibition features paintings, sculptures, works on paper, video projections, installations, site-specific pieces, film, photography, and mixed-media works by 41 artists from 22 countries. It is presented on two floors of Carnegie Museum of Art, with one work also located in Carnegie Museum of Natural History and one in Carnegie Library. You are invited to see the show in any sequence you choose, as there are multiple entryways into the galleries.

The works in this exhibition are in media and format extremely diverse, yet they center on an examination of the real—on what constitutes reality in this day and age when the virtual and the physical, the local and the global, and the real and the fictive coexist. Among the approaches to the real in the exhibition are works that immerse us in a more explicitly physical realm than is offered by visual engagement alone. Art that uses time, sound, smell, and movement and that welcomes interaction as primary media is evidence of a commitment to the real (for example, works by Ernesto Neto, Janet Cardiff, Olafur Eliasson, Sushan Kinoshita, Gabriel Orozco, Willie Doherty). Also present are works of emphatic materialism that intensify everyday experience. These pieces fabricate complete universes that are closely aligned with reality itself (for example, works by Martin Kippenberger, Mark Dion, Bodys Isek Kingelez, Matthew Barney, Gregor Schneider). Other works manifest a deliberate slippage between reality and fiction, putting the real into question by subtly deviating from it, specifically in order to return to it with greater sharpness and clarity. Taking elements from everyday life and re-creating, doubling, extending, and displacing them, artists willfully expose their means of fabrication to engage us even further in their work (for example, Sam Taylor-Wood, Kerry James Marshall, Thomas Demand, Pierre Huyghe).

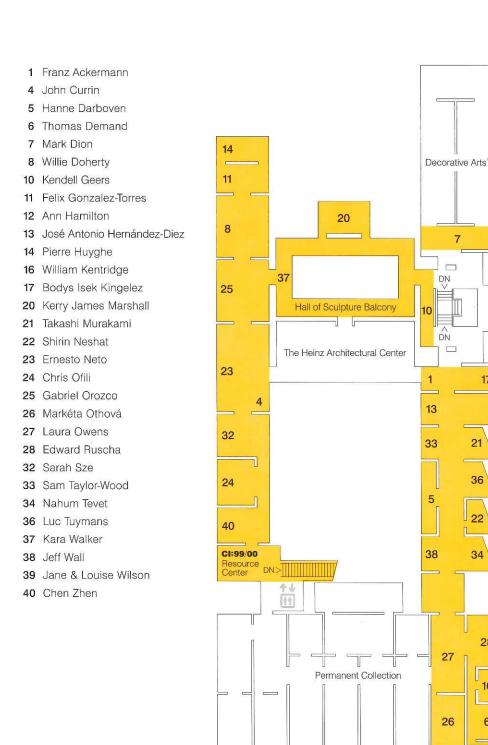
The Carnegie International also investigates the concept of a new internationalism in works of art that graft local and global visual vocabularies (for example, works by Chen Zhen, Shirin Neshat, Takashi Murakami, Chris Ofili, Nahum Tevet). Economic and media globalization, pervasive information technology, and increased travel—for artists especially, many of whom live outside of their native culture—have created transnational references and influences that are affecting art production and changing the meaning of the term "international." In this light, the hundred-plus-year-old title of this exhibition gains new resonance.

Floor 1

The numbers on these museum floor plans correspond to the numbers next to each artist's name in the Gallery Guide and also indicate where his/her work is located in the exhibition.



Floor 2



↑↓ [i]

Franz Ackermann Matthew Barney Janet Cardiff John Currin Hanne Darboven Thomas Demand Mark Dion Willie Doherty Olafur Eliasson Kendell Geers Felix Gonzalez-Torres Ann Hamilton José Antonio Hernández-Diez Pierre Huyghe Alex Katz William Kentridge Bodys Isek Kingelez



Martin Kippenberger Kerry James Marshall Takashi Murakami

Chris Ofili

Gabriel Orozco

Markéta Othová

Laura Owens

Edward Ruscha

Gregor Schneider

Ann-Sofi Sidén

Roman Signer

Sarah Sze

Sam Taylor-Wood

Nahum Tevet

Diana Thater

Luc Tuymans

Kara Walker

Jeff Wall

Jane & Louise Wilson

Chen Zhen