

Enriching Lives



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For Immediate Release

**ARTS COMMISSION'S PILOTED GRANT PROGRAM SUPPORTS
ACTIVITIES BRINGING TOGETHER
LOCAL AND VISITING INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS**

8 organizations receive grants to sponsor interactive events with artists from 12 countries

Artists from Los Angeles County will be able to benefit from workshops, symposia, convenings and master classes with performing and visual artists from a dozen different countries over the next year thanks to the Los Angeles County Arts Commission. Inter|Arts grants totaling \$36,000 have been awarded to 8 Los Angeles County-based arts organizations to support 13 activities promoting interaction between local and visiting international artists. A complete list of grantees and activities can be found on the Arts Commission's website, http://www.lacountyarts.org/interarts_activitiesround1.pdf and at the end of this release.

The first Inter|Arts event takes place on July 24, 2004. Up to 30 local musicians will attend a workshop with Pakistan's Rizwan-Muazzam Qawwali, masters of the art of Qawwali singing - inventive reinterpretations of spiritual love songs based upon classical Islamic and Sufi texts. Grand Performances, the sponsoring organization, is presenting a free performance by the singers of Rizwan-Muazzam Qawwali that evening at California Plaza.

"The Inter|Arts program promotes international exchange on a much more personal level," said Carlos Barrón, president of the Arts Commission. "Local artists benefit from hands-on experience and thoughtful conversation with the visitors and the sponsoring groups add another dimension to their programming."

Other visiting artists involved in Inter|Arts activities in the coming year include Polish concert pianist Stanislaw Drewiecki; Australian-born multi-media artist Heidi Wood; Hong Kong's City Contemporary Dance Company; the Mexican percussion ensemble Tambuco; Malayerba Theatre Company of Ecuador; Yuyachkani Theatre Company of Peru; Zvika Serper, a

specialist in Japanese theatre and cinema from Israel; Croatian media artist Darko Fritz; Japanese visual artist Kiyoshi Awazu; Japanese Taiko drummer Eitetsu Hyashi; German cellist Julius Berger and Costa Rican-born art curator Jens Hoffman.

Inter|Arts, the most recent addition to the Arts Commission's grant programs instituted in January 2004, is funded by a one-time grant of \$55,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts and a matching grant from the Los Angeles County Quality and Productivity Commission. The electronic application form for Round 2 of Inter|Arts, for activities taking place between January 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006, will be available on the Arts Commission's web site, www.lacountyarts.org, under International Initiatives on August 11 and are due September 29. The guidelines for Round 2 are on the web site now at http://www.lacountyarts.org/internl_inttv.htm. The eligibility requirements have been broadened for the second round of Inter|Arts and now allow organizations of any budget size to apply.

The **Los Angeles County Arts Commission**, Laura Zucker, Executive Director, provides leadership in cultural services of all disciplines for the largest county in the United States, encompassing 88 municipalities. The Arts Commission provides leadership and staffing to support the regional blueprint for arts education, *Arts for All*; administers a grants program that funds more than 250 nonprofit arts organizations annually; funds the largest arts internship program in the country in conjunction with the Getty Trust, programs the John Anson Ford Theatres and supports the Los Angeles County Cultural Calendar on ExperienceLA.com. The Commission also produces free community programs, including the L.A. Holiday Celebration broadcast nationally, and a year-round music program that funds more than 60 free concerts each year in public sites. The 2004-2005 President of the Arts Commission is Carlos Barrón.

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7/20/04

INTER|ARTS ROUND 1 GRANTS BY ORGANIZATION

18TH STREET ARTS CENTER

www.18thstreet.org

\$3,500

Activity 1 - mid-August 2004, a convening with multi-media artist Heidi Wood, born in Australia and living in Paris.

Activity 2 – early March 2005, a convening with media artist, Darko Fritz, a Croatian artist living in Amsterdam and Zagreb.

CENTER FOR JEWISH CULTURE AND CREATIVITY

www.jewishcreativity.org

\$2,500

May 15-June 30, 2005

Zvika Serper, a professor in both the Departments of Theater and East Asian Studies of Tel Aviv University, will conduct two consecutive workshops for local professional theater artists, mainly actors, musicians and designers. He is a specialist in Japanese theater and cinema.

FITLA (International Latino Theatre Festival of Los Angeles)

www.fitla.org

\$6,000

Activity 1 – Between October 29 and November 14, 2004 at Los Angeles Theatre Center, Malayerba Theatre Company of Ecuador will teach a creative acting workshop.

Activity 2 – Between November 8 and 10, 2004, location TBD, a theatre symposium will be held with representatives from two groups of performing contemporary theatre in Latin America: Malayerba and Yuyachkani company of Peru.

GRAND PERFORMANCES

www.grandperformances.org

\$6,000

Activity 1 – July 24, 2004 at California Plaza, a workshop for thirty musicians with Pakistan's Rizwan-Muazzam Qawwali.

Activity 2 – August 21, 2004 at the Diavolo Dance Studio, a modern dance master class with Hong Kong's City Contemporary Dance Company.

JAPANESE AMERICAN CULTURAL & COMMUNITY CENTER (JACCC)

www.jaccc.org

\$6,000

Activity 1 – early July 2005 in Doizaki Gallery at JACCC, workshop for visual artists, designers and filmmakers by artist Kiyoshi Awazu.

Activity 2 – July 14, 2005 at Japan America Theatre at JACCC, master class for professional Taiko artists given by Eitetsu Hyashi.

LOS ANGELES CONTEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS (LACE)

www.artleak.org

\$3,000

February 2, 2005 at LACE, a symposium with international curator Jens Hoffman, born in Costa Rica and currently Director of Exhibitions at the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London.

SOUTHWEST CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY

www.swmusic.org

\$3,000

October 12, 2004 at the Colburn School, in collaboration with the Mexican Cultural Institute, an artists' convening with the Mexican percussion ensemble, Tambuco.

YOUNG ARTISTS INTERNATIONAL

www.youngartists.org

\$6,000

Activity 1 - July 27, 2004 at the Beverly Hills Public Library Auditorium, a music recital/moderated workshop with international artist Stanislaw Drewiecki, a concert pianist from Poland.

Activity 2 – summer 2005, the German cellist Julius Berger will teach a master class.