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ARTISTS AND GALLERIES



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▲ "ULURU" (FROM SPONTANEOUS PROCESS SERIES), 2007, BY ROBERT MAH



▲ "LITTLE MAN" BY MAYRA BARRAZA



▲ "QUACK QUACK," 1992, BY DON ED HARDY

ONE LOVE

Laguna Art Museum's auction offers philanthropy, fun and fast transactions.

WHEN A WORK OF ART CHANGES HANDS FROM CREATOR TO COLLECTOR, THERE IS A sense of accomplishment on both sides. The collector has embellished a room or enhanced existing pieces. The artist's heart has successfully been poured onto canvas or perhaps, into glass or bronze. This transaction is that much more of a joyful occasion when many collectors compete for numerous works of art, auction style.

Some call Laguna Art Museum the "classiest museum in Orange County." That class turns into charity in February, when the museum hosts its annual art auction, themed "Love" this year in recognition of Valentine's Day. The Laguna Art Museum auction raises funds that go to the museum's education and exhibition programs.

"When you purchase a work of art at Laguna Art Museum you are not only making a private investment, but you are also making an investment in the art and culture of California," says Bolton Colburn, director of Laguna Art Museum. "You win in so many different ways: your enjoyment of what you have collected, the knowledge that you are supporting the artist as well as the museum, and the investment in California's most important assets, its creative capital—which is what makes California great."

The festivities begin with a preview from Feb. 5 to 11 with the auction itself on Feb. 12 from 6 to 10 p.m. Participating galleries include Marion Meyer Contemporary Art and Saltfineart, local to Laguna, and many other Southern California galleries. Delicious food will be set out in stations from local restaurants Watermarc and The Resort at Pelican Hill, with wine from Columbia Crest and drinks by Ketel One Vodka. Décor features the floral design of Roger's Gardens. A silent auction will comple-

ment the fast-paced live auction, and guests will enjoy live music as they mix and mingle with fellow collectors and artists.

If any works are left unsold after the auction, pieces can be bought on Feb. 13 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"As a fundraiser for the museum, a nonprofit institution, our annual art auction financially supports and strengthens the education and exhibition programs at Laguna

Art Museum," Bolton comments. "Artists and their works of art are extremely important as they represent the creative capital of Laguna Beach and Southern California at large."

Tickets are \$125 for members and \$150 for non-members and can be purchased online, at the membership front desk, or by calling membership manager Dawn Minegar.

More info: 307 Cliff Dr.; 949-494-8971; lagunaartmuseum.org.

▼ 2010 SILENT AUCTION

