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 한국문화원 KOREAN CULTURAL CENTER LOS ANGELES		<h1>Press Release</h1>		Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles 5505 Wilshire Blvd. LA., CA 90036 Tel (323)936-7141 www.kccla.org	
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22nd Korean Cultural Center Annual Juried Art Exhibition

Sculpture, Installation Works by 4 Contemporary Artists

- ▶ Date : May 13th – June 3rd , 2016
- ▶ Place : Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles, 2nd Floor, Art Gallery
5505 Wilshire Blvd. LA, CA 90036
- ▶ Opening Reception : Friday, May 13th, 2016 at 7:00-9:00p.m.
- ▶ Participating Artists : Gina Coccaro(Saint Petersburg, FL) Woomin Kim(Chicago, IL),
Connie DK Lane (Long Beach, CA), Soe Yu Nwe(Signal Hill, CA)
- ▶ More Information : Heeseon Choi at 323-936-3014 or exhibition@kccla.org

The Korean Cultural Center, Los Angeles proudly presents its 22nd Annual Juried Exhibition. The show will include work by four artists who were selected by jurors **Dave Bailey** (Former Professor of Art Center college of Design) and **Max Presneill** (Director and Head Curator of Torrance Art Museum) from a pool of work by 60 artists.

The juried exhibition draws on the submissions entered through an open call for work and was judged on the slides and electronic files submitted by the artists. Since its debut in 1993, the annual juried exhibition has steadily become one of the most popular events at KCCLA. It has grown steadily through the generosity of its supporters and the enthusiasm of the artists who submit their work. This year's exhibition includes the work of artists working across the United States. Regardless of their culture background, interests and experiences, these artists all share

an engagement with the creative process.

Director Nak Jung Kim of the Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles mentioned that, “The main goal of the Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles is to introduce and share our culture with other communities, so that we can work together through great programs and events. This exhibition is representative of such culture exchange program. Through this, we are trying to give them an amazing opportunity to engage with great artists in our competition, and to respect and share their ideas and culture through this program.”

The exhibition is open to the public and the announcement of the prize-winners will be made at the opening reception on Friday, May 13th, 2016 at 7:00p.m. at the KCCLA 2nd floor, Art Gallery. The show will run until June 3rd.

► Selected Artists; (ABC Order)

1. Gina Coccaro (St. Pittsburg, FL)

Gina Coccaro is a metal sculptor, and inspired by her discovery of the amazing work of John Chamberlain. Her materials, scavenged and recycled from junkyards and auto repair shops, include wrecked and abandoned auto sheet metal parts; some of which she found rusting in the dirt, run over by forklifts and trucks for months or years.

Her method essentially is to lay the parts out, arrange them, plasma-cut and grind them... then as John Chamberlain put it “look for the fit”. Purely abstract in the conception, many of her pieces evolve into identifiable narratives.

2. Woomin Kim (Chicago, IL)

We live with mystery and misinterpretation of past events. When I observe scratches, stains, or crevices on materials, I feel I’m finally facing real documentation that is not deceptive. It is not because they tell me the real story, but they make me realize the infinite gap between the past event and me looking at it right now. They make me humble, curious and sensitive about its materiality.

I make art to break my judgment towards objects. In the process of making, I treat the surface of mundane objects, by sanding them with sand paper or covering with thin layers of paraffin. As a result of peeling off or adding layers to the surface, I create distance between the objects and me. By doing this, I refresh myself from habitual perception of the things around me. At the same time, it is a way to confess the fact that I would never truly understand what the objects really are.

3. Connie Dk Lane(Long Beach, CA)

I operate on the threshold between past and present, focus on emotions and thoughts to construct meanings. I explore this process further based upon half-forgotten memories of living in Hong Kong. Rather than create separate and autonomous objects, I translate my distant impressions into visceral experiences, creating sculptural assemblages that integrate

materials and elements that are inherent references to Chinese culture. This is a new approach for me to produce works that bear an aspect of history wherein an idea revolves around the metaphor to transform personal meanings. Shaping past imagery and experiences into sculptural assemblages gives me ways of accessing and expressing my sense of belonging.

4. Soe Yu New(Signal Hill, CA)

In my work, I explore different ways of narrating my experience of alienation, pain and psychological confinement of being a foreigner through my autobiographical sculptures. Growing up as a Chinese female, living in Myanmar, Thailand and currently the United States, has created in me a sense of innate estrangement and painful division between myself and the social environment. I work in different media but primarily in clay. My work is autobiographical and subjective, narrating a sense of alienation and existential yearnings. The act of touch in the making process serves to reconcile the alienation I feel living in between Burmese, Chinese and American cultures.