

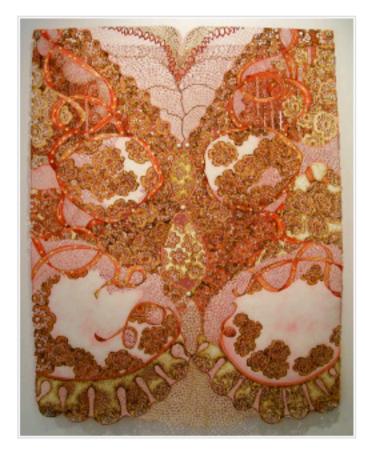
September 26, 2011, Previews

## Top 10 Now: Where Contemporary Art in L.A. is Headed

Sat, Sep 24, 2011



While Pacific Standard Time takes a look back at the history of the Los Angeles art scene, Avant-L.A. points us to its future.



Top 10 Now is the first in a series of independent curatorial exhibitions by Avant-L.A. Founded by Los Angeles art icon Mat Gleason, and art collectors and gallerists Michael Napoliello and Maria Frisk, Avant-L.A. stages fine art exhibitions that connect established and emerging contemporary artists to the public. The inaugural Avant-L.A. exhibition, Top 10 Now, will feature today's top 10 indie artists in Los Angeles, giving art collectors insight into California's emerging art landscape.

Juxtaposed to the Southern California museum-anchored event Pacific Standard Time: Art in L.A. 1945 – 1980 (an event that is expected to mark Los Angeles as a leader in the art marketplace), and the major ancillary contemporary art fairs—Art Platform Los Angeles and

Pulse Los Angeles—Avant-L.A. injects a unique vibe into the cultural milieu with an alternative to the post-war perspective of California art the museums and fairs will provide.

"Avant-L.A. Exhibitions has identified the 10 most compelling and important established and emerging artists, who are both living and working independently," said Mat Gleason, curator and co-founder of Avant-L.A. The artists selected are: Abel Alejandre, Michael Arata, Mark Brandvik, Megan Geckler, Kristi Lippire, Vito LoRusso, Antonio Mendoza, Leigh Salgado, Veronica Soto, and Tim Youd. "We hope that it will complement the experience of attending Platform, which I expect will rule the L.A. art fairs," Gleason added.

"We are excited to introduce a new feature to the museum and market circuit next month with Mat at the helm. He embodies the Los Angeles art scene and with his experience and insight, 'Top 10 Now' should be on everyone's itinerary," said Michael Napoliello co-founder, Avant-L.A.

Avant-L.A. Top 10 Now opens on Thursday, September 29, 2011 with a VIP preview, and will open to the general public on Friday, September 30 through Monday, October 3, 2011. The exhibit is located in an alternative space in downtown Los Angeles at 1835 S. Main St., L.A., CA 90015, adjacent to Platform-LA at the L.A. Mart.

Visit www.avant-la.com for more information.