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OMCA CELEBRATES THE MULTICULTURAL DIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA THIS FEBRUARY

Oakland Museum of California comes alive with a diverse offering of performances, music, talks, and art workshops

*From the righteous beats of **Lagos Roots Afrobeat Ensemble** to street dancing with **Turf Feinz**—OMCA offers something for everyone*

(OAKLAND, CA) January 12, 2011—This February, the Oakland Museum of California (OMCA) comes alive with a dynamic offering of programs and events exploring the many aspects of California culture and creative expression. From the launch of **the Oakland Standard**—OMCA's new contemporary arts program—on **Friday, February 4**, to an all-day family festival celebrating **Lunar New Year** and other Asian traditions on **Sunday, February 13**, to an all-evening **O ZONE celebration** of the rhythms of the African drum and its influence on our lives on **Friday, February 25**—OMCA celebrates everything California!

FEBRUARY PROGRAMS & EVENTS

The Oakland Standard Launch Party **Friday, February 4 | 8 p.m.–1 a.m.**

Enter the Oakland Standard—experiments in work and play by the Oakland Museum of California. Don't miss this premiere launch party featuring tag-team talks between Oakland notables **Walter Kitundu, Tammy Rae Carland, Mary Roach, Novella Carpenter, Wajahat Ali, and Jerome Waag**; performances by East Oakland street dancing pioneers **Turf Feinz**; musical interludes with **Cory Wright**; and more—all documented by the photography collaborative **Hamburger Eyes**. The party goes into the late hours with **DJ Mia Moretti**, an Oakland native and fashion industry favorite deemed by the *New York Times* and *PAPER* magazine as the "it" DJ to see. Cheap eats and beer available at OMCA's own Blue Oak café. Free bike valet parking by the **East Bay Bike Coalition**. Get in on the beginning of something great!
museumca.org/theoaklandstandard

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Gallery Talk: Artist Amy Evans McClure**Friday, February 4 | 6:30–7:30 p.m.**

Join Chief Curator of Art Phil Linhares and see the new OMCA Gallery of California Art through the eyes of artist Amy Evans McClure. A sculptor who works in ceramics, wood and mixed material, she recently completed a commission for the Bancroft Library at UC Berkeley. Hear her observations and add your own in an informal—sure to be engaging—conversation. OMCA is open until 9 p.m. every Friday. Included with Museum admission.

Gallery Talk: Artist M. Louise Stanley**Friday, February 11 | 6:30–7:30 p.m.**

Join Chief Curator of Art Phil Linhares and see the new OMCA Gallery of California Art through the eyes of artist M. Louise Stanley. In her paintings, Stanley, long involved in the Women's Artist movement, explores modern-day romance, gender issues, and sexual politics in the art world. Hear her observations and add your own in an informal—sure to be vigorous—conversation. OMCA is open until 9 p.m. every Friday. Included with Museum admission.

Lunar New Year Celebration & Other Asian Traditions**Sunday, February 13 | 12–4:30 p.m.**

Celebrate the Year of the Rabbit with a day of Asian New Year traditions. Watch mochi pounding with Kagami Kai and an exciting lion dance; be surprised by international champion magician Chin-Chin; hear author Oliver Chin read his delightful stories and see history come alive with storyteller Charlie Chin; learn the art of the Japanese bento box and how to make Vietnamese spring rolls; make your own art for the New Year, and more. Bring the whole family and celebrate the Lunar New Year at OMCA! Included with Museum admission. Presented in collaboration with DEAF Media and the Museum's Asian Pacific Advisory Council. Made possible by Chevron.

Michael C. McMillen: Train of Thought**First installations open February 16**

The career retrospective survey of Santa Monica-based mixed-media artist Michael C. McMillen—best known for his intriguing constructions and immersive environments—doesn't formally open until April 16, but don't miss the opportunity to see his first two multisensory installations *Pavillion of Rain* and *Lighthouse*, as well as select films, opening February 16. Part sculptor, installation artist, printmaker, and cultural anthropologist, McMillen has been creating environmental installations with architectural references and themes of time, change, and illusion since the 1970s.

Lecture: The Islands of San Francisco Bay**Wednesday, February 16 | 12:30–1:30 p.m.**

Meet Marin County photojournalist James Martin and hear about his research for his new book *The Islands of San Francisco Bay*. Learn about the ecology, birds, animals,

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plants, topography, and even the ghost towns of these 48 islands. A book signing follows his talk. Included with Museum admission.

Gallery Talk: Artist Squeak Carnwath

Friday, February 18 | 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Join Chief Curator of Art Phil Linhares and see the new OMCA Gallery of California Art through the eyes of artist Squeak Carnwath. A prolific painter and printmaker, Carnwath recently retired as professor of art at UC Berkeley. OMCA organized a 30-year retrospective exhibition *Painting is No Ordinary Object*, in 2009. Hear her observations and add your own in an informal—sure to be enlightening—conversation. OMCA is open until 9 p.m. every Friday. Included with Museum admission.

O ZONE: Soundtrack—The Drum

Friday, February 25 | 5 p.m.–12 a.m.

Beat to the drum of African Diaspora sound from West Africa to California! OMCA comes alive to celebrate the power of the drum and the African rhythms that infiltrate the soundtrack of our lives. Join master drummer **CK Ladzepko** and famed composer **Anthony Brown** along with guest drummers and African dancers for a special musical storytelling presentation sampling the progression of African drumming through history. Stroll OMCA galleries to hear the span of the drum from **Hambone artist Derique McGee**, Bay Area Steppers, and Beat Boxers to Drum Core, Kalimba, and more. Listen to **Duane Deterville** talk about California's history of resistance in jazz and the role of jazz in visual art. Join **the Oakland Standard** for digital and screen printing workshops with artists/activists **Emory Douglas** and **Favianna Rodriguez**. Enjoy an inspired menu with local ingredients from Whole Foods® as you chill in the Blue Oak café—music provided by **Bill Bell and The Jazz Connection Trio**; then head to the Soundtrack Lounge to enjoy DJs **Wonway Posibul** and **Jonasty**. Rock out to the righteous beats of **Lagos Roots Afrobeat Ensemble**—even bring your own drum and join the drumming circle! Explore all of the OMCA galleries, and get a sneak peak at the special exhibition ***Splendors of Faith/Scars of Conquest*** before it opens the next day. Included with Museum admission. In partnership with Amoeba Music and Whole Foods Market®. Media sponsorship provided by Bay Area News Group.

EXHIBITION OPENS

Splendors of Faith/Scars of Conquest

February 26 – May 29, 2011

Explore the Arts of the Missions of Northern New Spain in this stunning exhibition exploring the rich artistic legacy of the Franciscan and Jesuit mission churches in northern Mexico and the American Southwest. Many of the missions were exuberantly decorated with lavish paintings, sculpture, furniture, and liturgical objects and vestments. For the first time, this exhibition brings together more than a hundred sacred and ceremonial artworks from collections throughout Mexico, the U.S., and Europe. OMCA is the only California venue for this traveling exhibition and one of only two in the United States.

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EXHIBITION OPENS

Contemporary Coda

February 26 – May 29, 2011

Illuminating current perspectives on the Spanish conquest of California, OMCA presents a companion installation to *Splendors of Faith/Scars of Conquest*. Offering relevant viewpoints on age-old themes and iconographies presented in the exhibition, approximately 17 works by contemporary artists address issues of immigration, religion and contemporary Chicano identity, and the cultural survival of the Native peoples of California. Created mainly by Native and Hispanic artists, these works express devotion through the mixing of traditional and high-tech materials, offering a modern take on venerated figures like the Virgin of Guadalupe or the mainstream concepts of heaven and hell. Highlights include Ester Hernandez's *Virgen de Guadalupe Wanted*, Harry Fonseca's *The Discovery of Gold and Souls in California*, and Alma Lopez's *Our Lady*.

CALIFORNIA FUTURES TALK

Contemporary Reflections on the Spanish Conquest

Sunday, February 27 | 2–4 p.m.

Join us for contemporary reflections on the Spanish conquest, inspired by the exhibition *Splendors of Faith/Scars of Conquest*. Chief Curator of History Louise Pubols moderates this lively conversation featuring exhibition curators Clara Bargellini, professor of art history at Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, and Michael Komanecky, chief curator at the Farnsworth Art Museum. Together they will reveal untold histories of the U.S.-Mexico borderlands, discuss how Spaniards used art to conquer the region, and recount how works of art were discovered in the collections of local churches and museums, preserved, and brought together for this unprecedented exhibition. Amalia Mesa Bains, professor emerita, California State University Monterey Bay, and Linda Yamane, Ohlone Native and renowned basket weaver, join the conversation to discuss the impact of the missions on contemporary artists and cultures. Included with Museum admission. This program is made possible with support from the Academy of American Franciscan History and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

ABOUT THE OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA

The Oakland Museum of California (OMCA) brings together collections of art, history and natural science under one roof to tell the extraordinary stories of California and its people. OMCA's groundbreaking exhibits tell the many stories that comprise California with many voices, often drawing on first-person accounts by people who have shaped California's cultural heritage. Visitors are invited to actively participate in the Museum as they learn about the natural, artistic and social forces that affect the state and investigate their own role in both its history and its future. With more than 1.8 million objects, OMCA is a leading cultural institution of the Bay Area and a resource for the research and understanding of California's dynamic cultural and environmental heritage.

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VISITOR INFORMATION

Museum admission is \$12 general; \$9 seniors and students with valid ID, \$6 youth ages 9 to 17, and free for Members and children 8 and under. OMCA offers onsite underground parking and is conveniently located one block from the Lake Merritt BART station, on the corner of 10th Street and Oak Street. The accessibility ramp is located at the new 1000 Oak Street main entrance. For more information, visit www.museumca.org.

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