

CELEBRATE WITH THE PACIFIC STANDARD TIME FAMILY GUIDE



PACIFIC
STANDARD
TIME:
ART IN L.A. 1945-1980

USE THESE FUN ACTIVITIES, GAMES, AND QUESTIONS TO EXPLORE THE EXHIBITIONS OF PACIFIC STANDARD TIME.

Mix and match museums and guides to customize your own tour of Pacific Standard Time's many exhibitions. There are seven guides—choose just one or try them all!



CULTURAL IDENTITY



DESIGN



LIGHT AND SPACE



PERFORMANCE ART



PHOTOGRAPHY AND PRINTMAKING



POLITICS

*A SPECIAL GUIDE FOR TEENS



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

REMEMBER TO
BRING A PENCIL!
PENS, MARKERS,
AND CRAYONS AREN'T
ALLOWED IN MOST
MUSEUM GALLERIES.

KNOW WHICH MUSEUMS YOU'LL BE VISITING?

Check out our list of recommended guides on the back cover.

CELEBRATE POLITICS!

*Teen Guide

After the destruction of many cities during World War II and the influx of a number of immigrant artists to the United States, New York City was considered the art capital of the world. The New York artists, galleries, schools, and critics produced work that was recognized and celebrated around the world. The museums and important art critics who lavished attention on East Coast artists largely ignored the West Coast. Because they didn't feel like anyone was paying attention to them, the artists in Southern California felt free to experiment with themes and topics in their art that directly related to current events and the political struggles that they saw around them. Use this guide to explore how Southern Californian artists were engaging with politics through their art.

ART AS PROTEST

Many counterculture groups developed and grew in Southern California. They were dedicated to exposing and challenging traditionally held assumptions about class, race, gender, and war. Artists working with or adjacent to these activist groups used their art to promote these agendas.

As you walk through this exhibition look for works with political content. Make note of the way the work seems to support the following:

- CIVIL RIGHTS
- CHICANO LABOR MOVEMENT
- GAY LIBERATION
- FEMINISM
- ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISM
- ANTIWAR PROTEST

ARTIST AS ACTIVIST

DEBATE:

To engage in argument or discussion with opposing viewpoints.

ACTIVISM:

A policy of taking direct action to achieve an end, especially a political or social one.

Some art is meant to challenge the viewer. The idea is that if you are provoked or surprised, you will engage with the art in a more immediate way than if it was just pleasing to look at. It is meant to make you react with an opinion—to motivate you into taking action. By inspiring debate with or about their art, the artist becomes an activist.

Find an example of a work that challenges you and try to figure out what the artist wants to communicate to the viewer.

How is this work provoking? Is it the image, the message or slogan, or the subject matter? What does your reaction say about your political beliefs?



CELEBRATE POLITICS!

TIMELINE

In the 1960s and '70s, artists and students staged protests and made art to express their discontent with government policy in ways that had not been seen before in US history. Use this timeline to explore the relationship between the art being produced and the incredible amount of activism that was accomplished by young people in Southern California.

- 1964** In Vietnam, Gulf of Tonkin Incident results in US government's sending additional troops and the beginning of combat.
- 1965** **Artists' Protest Committee is started in Los Angeles to protest Vietnam War.**
The Watts Riots leave 34 people dead, 1,032 injured, and 3,438 arrested over the course of six days.
Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) opens. It is the city's first encyclopedic art museum.
- 1966** Ronald Reagan elected governor of California.
Artists build the Artists' Peace Tower in Hollywood in response to the war in Vietnam.
A group of LA high school students form a group that will become the Brown Berets, a Chicano social activist organization.
- 1967** **President Johnson visits LA and 10,000 people march on Century City to protest his war policies. Protest results in a bloody clash with police.**
- 1968** Assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis, Tennessee.
Assassination of Robert Kennedy in Los Angeles.
Chicano students in East LA stage a walkout to protest the unequal conditions of LA high schools as well as political conditions in the US.
- 1969** **A catastrophic oil spill in the Santa Barbara Channel results in a rise in environmental activism.**
First Ethnic Studies departments in the US established at San Francisco State University and University of California, Berkeley.
- 1970** **Brown Berets organize the Chicano Moratorium, an antiwar demonstration in East LA that results in a violent confrontation with police and the death of journalist Ruben Salazar. In the aftermath, the first official Chicano mural programs are launched.**
- 1971** The Sylmar earthquake rocks Southern California, 65 people perish.
Los Angeles underground activist newspaper, *The Red Tide*, is founded at University High School.
- 1972** Hundreds of high school students protest the school administration's decision to suppress *The Red Tide*.
- 1974** **As a result of the Watergate scandal, President Richard Nixon resigns office and moves to Orange County.**
- 1977** The Punk movement grows in Los Angeles; local artists contribute to its development.
- 1979** **Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), the first museum devoted to contemporary art in Los Angeles, is founded.**
- 1980** Ronald Reagan elected president.
- 1981** **Urban revitalization program in downtown LA results in massive demolition and the construction of several new skyscrapers on Bunker Hill.**
- 1984** A public art campaign is launched to celebrate the Olympics in LA.

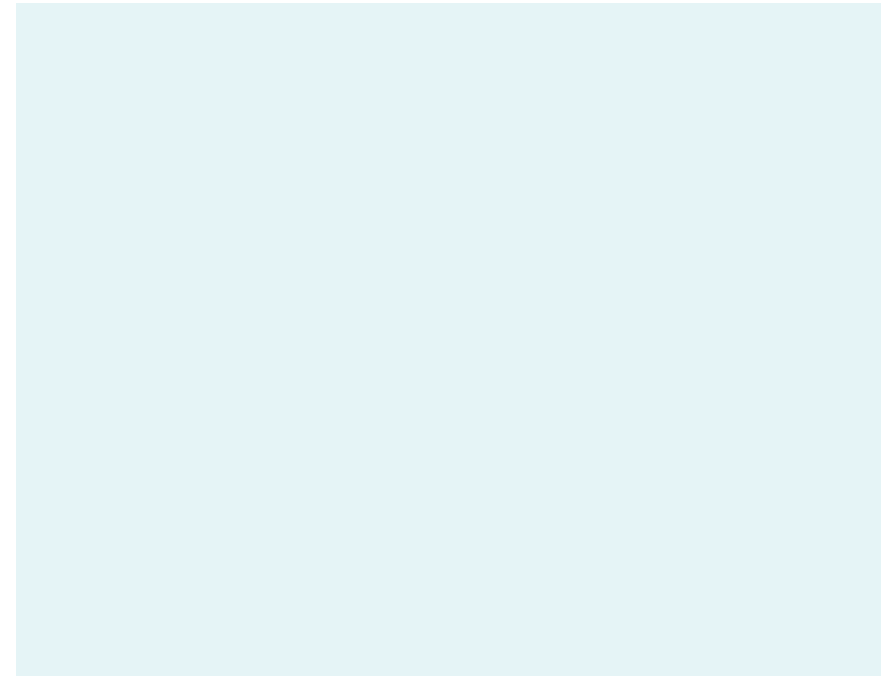
DISCUSS

Political art (including posters) has always been a medium for communication. In the past few years, however, social media has developed as an inexpensive and effective way to communicate ideas.

How has social media been used to mobilize people for protests in the US and internationally? How can artists insert themselves and their work into social media platforms?

ACTIVITY

Draw your own political poster in the space below. Use a composition or symbol that you saw in the exhibition. Choose a topic and create your own slogan. Remember to use a bold, simple font and an image that is clear and straightforward.



**Planning a visit to these museums?
Here's a list of recommended family guides!**



CULTURAL IDENTITY

Autry National Center
California African American Museum (CAAM)
California State University Northridge Art Galleries
Chinese American Museum
Fowler Museum, University of California, Los Angeles
Hammer Museum, University of California, Los Angeles
Japanese American National Museum
Los Angeles County Museum of Art (*Asco: Elite of the Obscure, A Retrospective, 1972–1987*)
Museum of Latin America Art (MOLAA)
Vincent Price Art Museum, East Los Angeles College



DESIGN

A+D Architecture and Design Museum
American Museum of Ceramic Art (AMOCA)
Chinese American Museum
Craft and Folk Art Museum (CAFAM)
Eames House Foundation
Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens
Japanese American National Museum
Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) (*California Design, 1930–1965: "Living in a Modern Way"*)
MAK Center for Art and Architecture at the Schindler House
Mingei International Museum
Museum of Art, Design and Architecture, University of California, Santa Barbara
Sam and Alfreda Maloof Foundation for Arts and Crafts
Santa Monica Museum of Art
Scripps College, Ruth Chandler Williamson Gallery



LIGHT AND SPACE

The Getty Center (*Crosscurrents in L.A. Painting and Sculpture 1950–1970*)
Hammer Museum, University of California, Los Angeles
Laguna Art Museum
Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) (*Mural Remix: Sandra de la Loza*)
Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego
Pomona College Museum of Art
Frederick R. Weisman Museum of Art, Pepperdine University



PERFORMANCE ART

18th Street Arts Center
Crossroads School, Sam Francis Gallery
LAND (Los Angeles Nomadic Division)
Laguna Art Museum
Long Beach Museum of Art (LBMA)
Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions (LACE)
Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) (*Asco: Elite of the Obscure, A Retrospective, 1972–1987*)
Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) (*Under the Big Black Sun: California Art 1974–1981*)
Orange County Museum of Art
Otis College of Art and Design, Ben Maltz Gallery
Pomona College Museum of Art
University Art Gallery, University of California, Irvine (*The Radicalization of a '50s Housewife: A Solo Project by Barbara T. Smith*)



POLITICS

18th Street Arts Center
Fisher Museum of Art, University of Southern California
Fowler Museum, University of California, Los Angeles
The Getty Center (*Greetings from L.A.: Artists and Publics 1945–1980*)
Long Beach Museum of Art (LBMA)
Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions (LACE)
Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery
Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) (*Under the Big Black Sun: California Art 1974–1981*)
Museum of Latin American Art
ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives
Otis College of Art and Design, Ben Maltz Gallery
University Art Gallery, University of California, Irvine
University Art Museum, California State University, Long Beach
Watts Towers Arts Center



PRINTMAKING AND PHOTOGRAPHY

California Museum of Photography, University of California, Riverside
California State University Northridge Art Galleries
Fisher Museum of Art, University of Southern California
Fowler Museum, University of California, Los Angeles (*Icons of the Invisible: Oscar Castillo*)
The Getty Center (*In Focus: Los Angeles, 1945–1980*)
The GRAMMY Museum
Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) (*Naked in Hollywood: Weegee in Los Angeles*)
Norton Simon Museum
Palm Springs Art Museum
University Art Museum, California State University, Long Beach



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

18th Street Art Center
The Getty Center (*Greetings from L.A.: Artists and Publics 1945–1980*)
Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery
Natural History Museum
Pacific Asia Museum
Santa Barbara Museum of Art
Watts Towers Arts Center

For more information, please visit

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ART IN L.A. 1945–1980

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