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Robert Wechsler's *Circular Bike*, 2013

atelier
OUTSIDE THE BOX



SBMA Celebrates Dada and West Coast Style at Next Atelier Event

Dada Disco and Left Coast Artists' Party

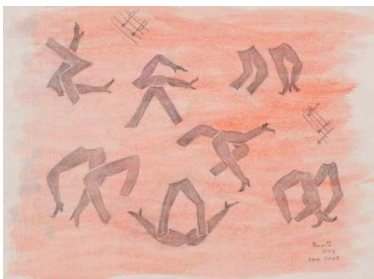
Friday, August 15, 5:30 - 7:30 pm

July 16, 2014—The Santa Barbara Museum of Art takes **Atelier** outside the box **Friday, August 15** for an eccentric evening inspired by its current exhibitions ***Left Coast: Recent Acquisitions of Contemporary Art*** and ***Living in the Timeless: Drawings by Beatrice Wood***. Drawing on the avant-garde spirit of Beatrice Wood—also known as the Mama of Dada—and designed to celebrate West Coast individuality and edge, this event offers a playful evening of art, live music, dance, interactive installations, funky finger food, and specialty cocktails.

Dance your way through a Dada-inspired disco, enjoy music by local band The Kinds, and get in touch with “Left” Coast art through interactive installations such as “***Betelgeuse and Blackness***,” inspired by artist April Street, and Robert Wechsler’s ***Purring Chair*** (2013) and ***Circular Bike*** (2013). Explore the deliberate irrationality of Dada with pairings of high and low, the found and the constructed, and influence and reinterpretation—this evening is not to be missed.

Highlights of the evening include:

The Dada Disco



In the spirit of Dada’s spontaneity and irreverence, high and low culture meet in the galleries as live video and Dada films by the likes of Man Ray and Hans Richter are projected in grand scale across the walls, and local ballet and modern dancers, choreographed by Robin Bisio and Kaita Lepre Mrazek and accompanied by the sounds of a DJ and live vocalist, perform reinterpretations of the Ballet Russes’ 1917 production of *Parade*. A spontaneous “Dada Live” is created on the spot with the help of multiple camera feeds that capture various aspects of the festivities and are projected as part of “the chance-based procedures” of the evening courtesy of Echelon A/V.

A Chair that Purrs and a Bicycle Trip to Nowhere

Artist Robert Wechsler, one of the evening guests and whose precise penny construction *The Mendicant (6,930)* (2014) can be seen in the *Left Coast* exhibition, keeps the Dada spirit alive with two interactive installations: *Circular Bike* and *Purring Chair*. His projects have a playful and mischievous nature designed to bring insight and levity to a public audience by revealing the extraordinary nature of the everyday world.



Like his penny sculptures, *Circular Bike* is a feat of engineering in the everyday vernacular. By

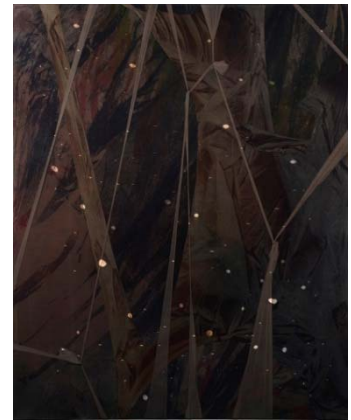
Right image: Robert Wechsler's *Purring Chair*, 2013

linking salvaged bikes into an unconventional carousel, Wechsler provides Dada delight for both rider and spectator. In similar absurdist mode, his *Purring Chair* takes the Eames chair, an icon of modernist design, and gives it the warmth of a curled up cat with eight speakers that provide a feline sound track.

Betelgeuse and Blackness: A Bedtime Interactive Installation

Inspired by April Street's *Betelgeuse (the shoulder and the Bow)* (2014), on view in *Left Coast*, an interactive bedtime installation on the Museum's front steps explores the connections between painting and sculpture, public and private, and waking and dreaming. Activate rumpled sheets with ripped pantyhose and saturated pigments as you add your sleep signature to this oversized abstract nocturnal canvas.

Right image: April Street, *Betelgeuse (the shoulder and the Bow)*, 2014. Black nylon over acrylic and hosiery on canvas. SBMA, 20th Century Art Quasi Endowment Fund.



Live Music



Santa Barbara band **The Kinds**, led by singer-songwriter Khasy Modisette, offers sweeping melodies and thoughtful lyrics delivered in a classic rock-and-roll package. Known for energetic stage performances, the band is a regular at local haunts like Cold Spring Tavern and Soho. Listen to original music layered with a custom set of California covers, including favorites like Led Zeppelin's "Going to California" and Woody Guthrie's "California Stars."

Specialty Food and Cocktails

Shock yourself into self-awareness with unexpected and funky finger food like jalapeño jack, sea salt and olive oil popcorn from Santa Barbara Pop Corn Company and donut holes from Spudnuts. Then, spice things up with two specialty Cutler Vodka cocktails, the "Leave it to Chance," a Russian roulette of randomly selected garnishes, and "Rumpled Sheets," a mix of vodka, lemonade and splash of Tabasco sauce.

Santa Barbara band The Kinds. Photo by Blue Caleel

Tickets include hors d'oeuvres, wine, and signature cocktails.
21 and over

\$25 SBMA Members/\$30 Non-Members

Purchase tickets at www.sbma.net/atelier.

For more information, call 805.884.6423 or email atelier@sbma.net.

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The Santa Barbara Museum of Art is a privately funded, not-for-profit institution that provides internationally recognized collections and exhibitions and a broad array of cultural and educational activities as well as travel opportunities around the world.

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