



BACKYARD OASIS: THE SWIMMING POOL IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PHOTOGRAPHY, 1945-1982

January 21st – May 27th, 2012

Palm Springs Art Museum



Backyard Oasis will contain approximately 135 framed works of archival photography and significant exhibition prints along with selected ephemera and film clips presented through DVDs on flat-screen monitors. The exhibition, organized by Senior Curator Daniell Cornell, will trace the development of art and cultural history within the following thematic groups: California Architecture and Design, Hollywood and Celebrity Culture, The Shape of Desire and Dreams, The Utopian-Dystopian Topos of Suburbia, and The Pacific Ocean as Context.

Photographers and artists whose works are included in the exhibition:

- Slim Aarons
- Bill Anderson
- Diane Arbus
- Loretta Ayeroff
- John Baldessari
- Lewis Baltz
- Bruce Bellas
- Ruth Bernhard
- Bob Gentry
- Michael Childers
- Eileen Cowin
- Robert Cumming
- Joe Deal
- Roy Dean
- John Divola
- Garrett Eckbo
- Jim French
- Anthony Friedkin
- David Hockney
- Harold Jones
- Sant Khalsa
- Leland Lee
- Bob Mizer
- Kenda North
- Jane O'Neal
- Bill Owens
- Maynard Parker
- Rondal Partridge
- Herb Ritts
- Mel Roberts
- Ed Ruscha
- Lawrence Schiller
- Julius Shulman
- Larry Silver
- Evan Slater
- Craig Stecyk
- Larry Sultan
- George Tate
- Edmund Teske
- Garry Winogrand
- Max Yavno
- Lloyd Ziff

Symposium

A two-day symposium was held Saturday and Sunday, November 20-21, 2010, in Palm Springs to present the mid-point research findings of the five-member research team. Panel sessions offered a forum to expand their findings through discussions with seven to ten additional experts in the related fields of modernist design, media, popular culture, and the visual and photographic arts. The symposium included an introductory address and keynote speech.

Catalogue

The exhibition's accompanying publication will contain an introductory essay providing an overview of the development of the swimming pool and its attendant aesthetic and social culture. Authored by the exhibition's organizing curator and its

contributing research team members, the catalogue's five chapters are: *Exposed Desires: Poolside Reflections on Celebrity*, Daniell Cornell,

Senior Curator and Deputy Director for Art, Palm Springs Art Museum; *Dystopia and the Swimming Pool*, Dick Hebdige, Professor of Art, University of California, Santa Barbara; *From Beefcake to Skatecake: Subcultures and Masculinity*, Tyler Stallings, Director, Sweeny Art Gallery, University of California, Riverside; *Designing Nature: The Pool in the Garden*, Robert Stearns, Independent Curator and Project Coordinator, Palm Springs; *Swimming Alone: The Backyard Pool in Cold War California*, Jennifer Watts, Curator of Photographs, Huntington Library, San Marino.

The catalogue provides an opportunity to extend the exhibition's content with additional images drawn from print and other media. It will contain approximately 250 pages and include 150-200 images in color and black and white.

Additional Programs

During the exhibition in 2012, additional lectures will be presented along with educational programs designed for K-12 and college and university audiences including a panel discussion January 21st. A film program will survey the wealth of popular and vanguard cinematic creativity engendered during the period.

Pacific Standard Time: Art in L.A. 1945 - 1980

Pacific Standard Time is a collaboration of more than sixty cultural institutions across Southern California, coming together for six months beginning in October 2011 to tell the story of the birth of the Los Angeles art scene and how it became a major new force in the art world. Each institution will make its own contribution to this grand-scale story of artistic innovation and social change, told through a multitude of simultaneous exhibitions and programs. Exploring and celebrating the significance of the crucial post-World War II years through the tumultuous period of the 1960s and 70s, Pacific Standard Time encompasses developments from modernist architecture and design to multi-media installations; from L.A. Pop to post-minimalist; from the films of the African American L.A. Rebellion to the feminist happenings of the Woman's Building; from ceramics to Chicano performance art; and from Japanese American design to the pioneering works of artists' collectives.

Initiated through \$10 million in grants from the Getty Foundation, Pacific Standard Time involves cultural institutions of every size and

character across Southern California, from Greater Los Angeles to San Diego and Santa Barbara to Palm Springs.

Backyard Oasis is just one of the many exhibitions and events organized by Pacific Standard Time. To view the Pacific Standard Time web site, go to www.pacificstandardtime.org



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

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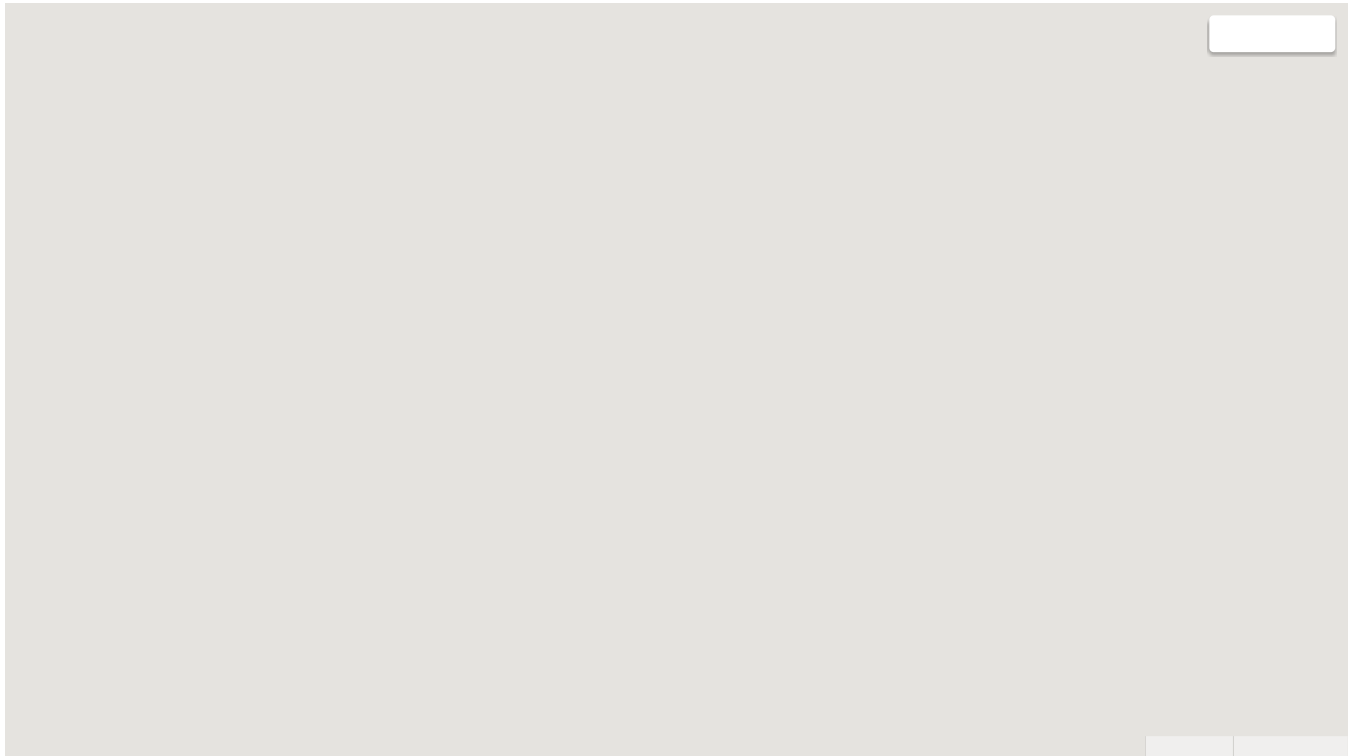


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Palm Springs Art Museum is the largest cultural institution in the Coachella Valley and includes three locations in Palm Springs and Palm Desert. The flagship building is located in downtown Palm Springs and features compelling art exhibitions, a vast permanent collection, and the 433-seat Annenberg Theater, all in a 150,000 square foot, architecturally-significant building. Palm Springs Art Museum Architecture and Design Center, Edwards Harris Pavilion features exhibitions and programming that explore the rich topics of architecture and design. Palm Springs Art Museum in Palm Desert is an 8,400 square foot, Silver LEED-certified building named The Galen that presents rotating exhibitions and special collections. It is surrounded by the four-acre Faye Sarkowsky Sculpture Garden featuring important sculpture works. Admission to the Palm Desert location is now free to the public, generously underwritten by Helene V. Galen. Palm Springs Art Museum and the A+D Center are open to the public with free admission every Thursday evening from 4-8 p.m., thanks to the City of Palm Springs. Both locations have free admission the second Sunday of each month.

Palm Springs Art Museum | 101 Museum Drive, Palm Springs CA 92262 | 760-322-4800

Palm Springs Art Museum Architecture and Design Center, Edwards Harris Pavilion | 300 South Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs, CA 92262 | 760-423-5260

Palm Springs Art Museum in Palm Desert | 72-567 Highway 111, Palm Desert CA 92260 | 760-346-5600

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