

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, December 19, 2016

ANDY MOSES: A 30-YEAR SURVEY

PETE AND SUSAN BARRETT ART GALLERY, SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

FEBRUARY 14 - MARCH 25, 2017



**OPENING RECEPTION
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2017, 6–8:30PM**

**PETE AND SUSAN BARRETT ART GALLERY
AT SANTA MONICA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
1310 11TH ST, SANTA MONICA, CA 90401**

Santa Monica, CA – Santa Monica College Pete and Susan Barrett Art Gallery will present *Andy Moses: A 30 Year Survey*, documenting the evolution of the artist's elusive, non-objective pictorial works. The Venice-based painter has spent the last thirty years perfecting his elaborate process-driven vocabulary, and this exhibition will open on the occasion of his 55th birthday.

Moses has worked in both New York and Los Angeles and has explored art at the intersection of painting, science, and alchemy. Curated by Barrett Art Gallery Director Marian Winsryg, *Andy Moses: A 30-Year Survey* will follow the progression of the artist's style and process in chronological sequence, from his early black and white works produced over a 15-year period in New York City, in which he explored galactic and microscopic imagery through chemical paint reactions, to his most recent vibrantly colored and detailed paintings made in Los Angeles in the last 15-years.

Moses's paintings are executed in his Venice studio in single uninterrupted painting sessions but are the result of detailed notations, elaborate paint preparations, and lengthy material experiments. Moses must react to the physical processes he catalyzes, given the relatively quick drying times of the materials, and cannot revise the end result, having created irreversible conditions of movement and flow. Though organic stylistically, a mathematical component guides their production as well. Moses has described his process as part painting, part science,

and part "garage alchemy," in which humble materials are transformed completely through process. The works are the result of equal parts physical phenomena, intense focus, and occasional magic.

"Among all the arts, it is the art of alchemy that imitates nature most closely." - Albertus Magnus

Created through the physical reactivity and interaction of materials rather than through gestural mark making, the dynamic fluid "marks" that striate his works are achieved through a process of gravitational movement and highly controlled dispersions of paint across the surface. Moses floods the polycarbonate ground with acrylic paint mixtures of varying viscosities, combined with pearlescent acrylic interference mediums. His panels are often concave or convex panoramic formats chosen to reinforce the object quality of the works, pushing them into a third dimension. The curvature is both functional, used to create movement in the pouring process, and referential, mimicking the bowed and recessive physical qualities of the earth.

Born in Los Angeles, Moses grew up in Santa Monica with an unavoidable love of sea and sky. The immersive and transcendent quality of the ocean and coastal horizon would manifest in his later works. The son of painter Ed Moses, he attended the California Institute of the Arts in 1979, where he initially enrolled for film and video and then painting in his final year. He studied at that time with Michael Asher, John Baldessari, Barbara Kruger, and Douglas Huebler. He moved to New York City in the early 80's where he began producing process-oriented works, incorporating silkscreened scientific imagery and newsprint text into meteoric and geological-looking paintings.

In '92 Moses began using powdered pigments with acrylics, creating more gestural and chromatic paintings of primordial landscapes and ancient looking life-forms. These works continued his interest in creating referential, albeit non-objective, abstractions. In 2000 Moses returned to Los Angeles where his work would again shift in response to the environment in which he was working. He would then begin the body of work, which he continues to develop to this day.

Andy Moses says of his work, "I have always been interested in fractal-like patterns that exist in nature, those that repeat on a wide range of scales though never precisely the same. These types of patterns simultaneously suggest both the interconnectedness and complexities of nature."

Though Moses's work is non-representational, an allusiveness persists in its reference to natural forms and vistas. Interested in the concept of fractals and their appearance in nature, Moses is drawn to the ways in which self-similar patterns are reiterated on both a macrocosmic and cellular level. The oscillating quality of movement in his paintings recalls the familiar ebb of water, geological topographies, or the waning horizons of sky.

Image Credits Left to Right: Andy Moses, *Veil of Time*, 1986. Acrylic and alkyd on canvas. 60" x 90". Andy Moses, *R.A.D. 1601*, 2015. Acrylic on polycarbonate mounted on horizontal parabolic concave wood panel, 60" x 84" x 7". Andy Moses, *Metamorph 1502*, 2016. Acrylic on polycarbonate mounted on wood panel, 67" x 95".

ABOUT ANDY MOSES

A Los Angeles-based artist with a unique take on color and the relationship between space, shape, and light. Andy Moses paints with pearlescent pigments on concave canvases, which curve inward like the old Cinerama movie screens of the 1950's. The effect harnesses light and causes the painting to shift in depth and contrast as the viewer moves around it. Moses also works with convex canvases, which utilize an outward curve, causing his pearlescent colors to shift and change as different amounts of light hit the surface at any given point.

Andy Moses is in numerous important private and public collections, including Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), The Orange County Museum of Art (OCMA), Laguna Art Museum and the Frederick R. Weisman Art Foundation. He lives and works in Venice, California.

ABOUT THE SANTA MONICA COLLEGE PETE AND SUSAN BARRETT ART GALLERY

The Santa Monica College Pete and Susan Barrett Art gallery opened at its new location in 2000, as part of the new Performing Arts Center complex including the Broad Theater, Edge Second Space, East Wing Performance Space, and the SMC Music Department.

Through the years the Barrett gallery has provided a type of visual sanctuary for many artists offering an opportunity to exhibit their artwork from a provocative, artist-centric perspective. The Gallery's exhibition programming supports experimentation and expansive notions of art and culture, providing a forum for engaged conversations about creativity and innovation. The list of artists that have exhibited in the gallery ranges from Gwynn Murrill, *Early Wood Sculpture*; Peter Shire, *Sapporo Steel Sculpture*; and The Kinsey Collection of African American Art and Artifacts. *The Painted Song*, an exhibit of Aboriginal Women Artists, loaned by the Kelton Collection of Aboriginal Art; Martha Alf, *Realist Drawings & Paintings*; and a series of solo exhibits that include: John M. Miller, Scot Heywood, Edith Baumann, and Raymond Saunders.

Exhibitions like these have helped to establish the gallery's solid reputation for presenting interesting and thoughtful exhibits, offering greater opportunities for the public and our students to experience Southern California Art, and bringing much-deserved recognition and support to the artists exhibiting in our space.

**The Santa Monica College Pete and Susan Barrett Art Gallery is located at
1310 11th St, Santa Monica, CA 90401.**

Opening hours: Tuesday-Friday, 12pm–5pm, Saturday, 11am–4pm

MEDIA RELATIONS

Lyn Winter, Inc., +1 213 446 0788

Livia Mandoul, livia@lynwinter.com