PLURAL

Winter Garbage Chunks, 2008
Plaster, assorted garbage
Gift of the artist

CHINA ADAMS

Bringing meticulous conceptual processes to bear on a range of media from flesh to seeds to plaster, Los Angeles-based artist China Adams questions the nature of consumerism and acquisition culture. Her work has been exhibited at Ace Gallery and Steve Turner Contemporary, CA; Black Ball Projects, NY; and Centro De Arte De Salamanca, Spain. It is included in collections at the Berkeley Art Museum and Carnegie Art Museum, CA. UNLV MFA 2000, Visiting Artist Lecturer 2009.

LINNDA ALTERWITZ

Las Vegas based artist Linda Alterwitz juxtaposes scientifically generated imagery with traditional and digital photographic techniques, searching for new ways to stimulate ideas about human frailty and wonder. She has exhibited internationally in both traditional and site-specific installations including Life is Beautiful, Las Vegas, NV; Yixian Photo Festival, China; and Mayo Clinic, FL. In 2014, she was awarded the Fellowship for Visual Arts by the Nevada Arts Council. Her mid-career retrospective, While I Am Still, took place in Las Vegas at The Studio at Sahara West in 2015.

Alterwitz illustrates a dynamic affinity between humans and the natural world by combining readouts from medical diagnostic testing with markings from the landscape.

AUDREY BARCIO

Chicago-based painter and mixed media artist Audrey Barcio explores notions of metaphysics, work, labor, action and their relationships to the human condition. She has exhibited at the Donna Beam Fine Art Gallery, Las Vegas, NV; Random Access, NY; Tube Factory Artspace, IN; and GLAMFA, UC Long Beach, CA. Her work has been published in New American Paintings and is held in private collections in Las Vegas and New York. UNLV MFA 2016.

TIM BAVINGTON

Las Vegas-based painter Tim Bavington translates popular songs into visual explorations of color and form. He has exhibited internationally and in the U.S. His sculpture Pipe Dream (2012), an interpretation of Aaron Copland's Fanfare for the Common Man, is on permanent display at the Smith Center. Bavington's work has been collected by the Museum of Modern Art in New York, Denver Art Museum in Colorado, the Istanbul Modern in Turkey, and numerous other institutions. UNLV MFA 1999.
ELIZABETH BLAU

Based in San Jose, CA, painter Elizabeth Blau reflects different notions of memory and impermanence through imagery of icebergs, foreclosed houses, and other natural and constructed phenomena. She has exhibited at the University of Arizona Museum of Art, Tucson, AZ; the Tyler School of Art Gallery, PA; and Brett Wesley Gallery (now The Cube), Las Vegas.

CATHERINE BORG

Baltimore-based artist Catherine Borg uses photography, video, and other media to reposition her audience within the narratives of recognizable cultural phenomena. Her work has been presented internationally, with exhibitions and screenings at the National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, CA; the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, MA; and the Contemporary Art Center, Las Vegas, NV.

These works are part of Borg’s project Scouted: An Inadvertent Archive from the Search for a Cinematic Vegas which appropriates and re-contextualizes materials from UNLV Special Collections. The images, originally created by location scouts, have been reframed to expand the archival record of Las Vegas to include life “off the strip” and to consider the labor and by-products of the culture industry.

DIANE BUSH

Las Vegas-based photographer, mixed media artist, and grassroots activist Diane Bush reflects—often satirically—on aspects of contemporary life, working to connect the concerns of art to problems of society and politics. Her work has been published and exhibited internationally, including shows at The Photographers Gallery, London, U.K.; the Soho Photo Gallery, NY; Los Angeles Center for Digital Arts, CA; and the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, NY. Her work is included in collections at the Tate Modern, U.K.; Helmut Gernsheim, Germany; and the Cirque du Soleil art collection in Montreal, Canada. Her monograph WARHEADS was published by KUDA editions in 2005.

By obliterating pictures of politicians with bleach, Diane Bush speaks to other forms of public silencing and erasure, from the censorship that took place during the Iraq war to the defacement of women in acid attacks.
GIG DEPIO

Las Vegas-based painter Gig Depio presents the intersections of contemporary and historical forces in the form of intense, often large-scale, figurative compositions. Recipient of the 2016 Nevada Arts Council Fellowship Grant in Painting, he has exhibited across Nevada, with shows at the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno; the Nevada Arts Council OXS Gallery in Carson City; and the Clark County Winchester Cultural Center Gallery, Las Vegas. In his native Philippines, he worked for several years as an apprentice to his father, artist Professor Gig C. De Pio, Sr.

*Breaking Armistice* brings the past, present, and future of Las Vegas together in a grouping of allegorical figures. Depio often compresses several ideas into one form, as he does here when he allies a practical jackhammer with the muscles of a professional entertainer.

ANDREANA DONAHUE

Las Vegas-based mixed-media artist Andreana Donahue tests the history and context of landscapes by committing found materials to intensive analog processes. Her work has been exhibited across the United States and internationally, with shows in Alaska, California, Nevada, Illinois, Texas, South Carolina; and Bluonduos and Reykjavik, Iceland. Donahue is the co-founder of Disparate Minds, a project dedicated to the work of marginalized self-taught artists.

*Dowsing Rod (Missing Person)*, 2014
Paper, sequins, cotton
*Rake*, 2015
Paper, wild Alaskan blueberry residue
Gift of the artist

JACQUELINE EHLIS

Portland-based artist Jacqueline Ehlis explores the possibilities of paint as a form-defining medium, using it to create a sculptural impression of light and color. She has exhibited at The Studio at Sahara West, Las Vegas; the New American Art Union, Portland; and other galleries in Oregon and Nevada. Her work was included in the landmark 2007 exhibition, *Las Vegas Diaspora: The Emergence of Contemporary Art from the Neon Homeland*. UNLV MFA 2000.
JUSTIN FAVELA

A native Las Vegan, Justin Favela creates sculptures, installations, and performance works that address ideas about culture, nostalgia, and self-identification. Favela’s work has been exhibited at Denver Art Museum, CO; New Mexico Museum of Art, NM; Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, AR; the MAC Belfast, U.K.; and the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno. Along with his co-host, Emmanuel Ortega, he is the founder of the popular podcast, Latinos Who Lunch.

Favela’s background as a native Las Vegas artist of working class Mexican and Guatemalan heritage is asserted in this piece, which transforms the landmark sign of the city’s historic—now imploded—Stardust casino into an expression of vernacular pronunciation and thrifty materials.

ASH FERLITO with MATT TABER

New York City-based painter and multimedia artist Ash Ferlito works to express the distinction between private identity and public exposure, self-advertisement and comfort. She has exhibited in North America, the United Kingdom, and Europe, with residencies at Marble House Project in Dorset, VT; and at the Sointula Art Shed Residency in Sointula, B.C., Canada. Ferlito is a member of the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, class of 2012. Her Time Capsule installation at the Barrick Museum of Art will be opened in 2044. UNLV AIR 2014.

NOELLE GARCIA

Based in the Chicago metropolitan area, Noelle Garcia uses a range of media to shape a personal response to the complexities of family relationships and Native American identity. Raised in Reno Sparks Indian Colony and other Nevadan reservations, she is an enrolled member of the Klamath tribes. Her work has been exhibited in galleries and institutions across the United States. Garcia has been a fellow of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian and the Nevada Arts Council. UNLV MFA 2012.

Garcia’s reimagined food and cigarettes bring Native American traditions of beadwork to bear on symbols of pervasive, commonplace cultural change.
NANCY GOOD

Las Vegas-based artist Nancy Good experiments with photography and other media in the search for an intangible sense of atmosphere. She has exhibited at locations in Tennessee, New York, Montana, California, and Nevada, including the Nashville International Airport; St. Mary’s Retreat & Art Center, Vincent, NV; and Las Vegas’ Life is Beautiful Festival.

MAUREEN HALLIGAN

Based in Monterey, CA, painter Maureen Halligan uses unexpected juxtapositions of high-contrast color to create self-aware illusions of depth and space. Her work has been exhibited at venues in Italy, Rhode Island, Nevada, and California, including the Donna Beam Fine Art Gallery, The Studio at West Sahara, and the Clark County Government Rotunda. UNLV MFA 2016.

CLARITY HAYNES

Brooklyn-based painter Clarity Haynes works from life, creating portraits that honor the details of specific, individual bodies. Her work has been exhibited at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery, Washington D.C.; Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma, WA; Art Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi, TX; and the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, MO. It is included in collections at Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, PA; and Leslie Lohman Museum of Lesbian and Gay Art, NY.

Ria is part of Haynes’ Breast Portrait Project, a series she has been developing since the 1990s. Painted and drawn from life, these works direct our attention away from the site where we expect to find identity—the face—and invite us to look for it in a region of the body that is often hidden from view.
STEPHEN HENDEE

Drawing on the virtual worlds of film and literature, Baltimore-based sculptor Stephen Hendee reimagines physical space as an imaginary frontier between nature and technology. Recent recipient of a 2017 Maryland State Art Council Artist Award in Sculpture/Installation, Hendee has exhibited at MoMA PS.1, the New Museum, Sculpture Center LIC, the Whitney Museum of American Art, NY, and the Smart Museum, IL.

Winter Jacket is one of Hendee's fictional artifacts from a post-apocalyptic future America in which digital communication has been destroyed and the inhabitants have developed analog methods of communicating their identities, originally shown in a solo exhibition at the Barrick in 2010.

BRENT HOLMES

Las Vegas-based sculptor and photographer Brent Holmes investigates the margins of our urban landscape for the places where ancient philosophy finds an echo in contemporary mores. He has exhibited in galleries across Las Vegas; at Light and Space Contemporary, Manila, Philippines; and Torrance Art Museum, CA.

BOBBIE ANN HOWELL

A native Nevadan, Bobbie Ann Howell translates current events, the lives of women, and elements of the western landscape into cut paper imagery, photographic explorations, and other media. She has exhibited at locations across Nevada, including the Lost City Museum in Overton; Great Basin College, Elko; and the Donna Beam Fine Art Gallery, Las Vegas. Her works are held in public and private collections across the United States.

ALEXA HOYER

Brooklyn-based photographer and video artist Alexa Hoyer searches for the unstated sense of purpose that haunts marginalized and overlooked locations. She has exhibited in the US, Europe, and at the Inside-Out Museum in Beijing, China. Hoyer's photographs have been published in Harpers Magazine, Vice.com, Wall Street International, Domus, der Spiegel, Taz, and Der Freitag.
ERI KING

Brooklyn-based interdisciplinary artist Eri King reframe banal, unnoticed, and repetitive actions through a series of conceptual processes, increasing the visibility and perceived value of these collective everyday rituals. Previously a resident of Las Vegas, King co-founded 5th Wall Gallery and Project Space in the former Emergency Arts building. She has exhibited at MCQ Fine Art and the Cosmopolitan’s P3 Studio, Las Vegas; and CP Projects Gallery and Miranda Kuo Gallery, NY. UNLV BFA 2011.

BRANDEN KOCH

Faced with the absurd turmoil of contemporary life, Brooklyn-based artist Branden Koch responds with vigorous drawings, paintings, and sculptures. He has exhibited at Regina Rex and Soloway Gallery, NY; Romer Young Gallery, San Francisco, CA; and High Energy Constructs, Los Angeles, CA.

FAY KU

Born in Taiwan and based in New York City, artist Fay Ku illustrates an uncanny world in which enigmatic actions are carried out in pursuit of unarticulated psychological phenomena. Her work has been exhibited across the United States and Asia, with one-woman shows at the New Britain Museum of American Art, CT; The Contemporary Museum in Honolulu, HI; and the Snite Museum of Art, IN. UNLV AIR 2010.
WENDY KVECK

The paintings, drawings, and live performances of Las Vegas-based artist Wendy Kveck explore cultural depictions of women as markers of vulnerability and chaos. Kveck has exhibited at galleries and institutions in California, Illinois, Arizona, Texas, Oregon, Florida, and Nevada; with shows at the Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art and in *Tilting the Basin: Contemporary Art of Nevada* at the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno, and downtown Las Vegas. UNLV MFA 2007.

ERIC LOPRESTI

The drawings and paintings of Brooklyn-based artist Eric LoPresti dramatize the symbiotic relationship between beauty and destruction, with a special focus on the aftermath of thermonuclear explosions. He has exhibited in numerous locations throughout New York and across the United States, including solo shows at Elizabeth Houston Gallery, NY, and the National Atomic Testing Museum, Las Vegas. In 2018, LoPresti will be having solo exhibitions at Burning In Water Gallery, NY; and at the New Mexico State University Art Gallery.

JULIE OPPERMANN

Based in Berlin, Germany, American artist Julie Oppermann draws on her background in neuroscience to create juxtapositions of stripes and marks that disrupt the processes of visual perception. She has exhibited in Europe, the US, and Asia, including shows at Mark Moore Gallery, CA; Joshua Liner Gallery, NY; Galerie Stefan Roepke, Cologne, Germany; Museum Jorge Rando, Spain; and the Janelia Research Campus (HHMI), VA. Her work is in the collections of the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, CA; and Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX.
TOM PFANNERSTILL

Executing tromp l’oeil work in a variety of media, Kentucky-based artist Tom Pfannerstill draws attention to the individualizing impact of time on commonplace objects. He has exhibited at galleries in New York City, Las Vegas, Italy, and across the American South. Pfannerstill’s work is in the collections of the Flint Institute of Arts, MI, and the Evansville Museum of Arts and Sciences, IN.

KRYSAL RAMIREZ

Las Vegas artist and photographer Krystal Ramirez uses process-based repetition in analogue media to articulate intimate moments of absence, vulnerability, and desire. She has exhibited at VAST Space Projects; Life is Beautiful; and in the pan-Nevedan celebration of state artists, *Tilting the Basin: Contemporary Art of Nevada*, which traveled from the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno to downtown Las Vegas in 2017. UNLV BFA 2009.

Ramirez created this work as an institutional critique of galleries and museums, highlighting the absence of a consistent Latinx presence in the contemporary art world. An earlier iteration of *I Want to See* was installed in the Clark County Government Center Rotunda from January - March, 2017. This version was created during the artist’s 2017-18 residency at Juhl Las Vegas.

KIM RUGG

Born in Canada and currently based in London, U.K., Kim Rugg manipulates the public language of newspapers, maps, and other media to draw attention to the imbalance between collective signage and lived reality. She has exhibited at Mark Moore Gallery, CA; P.P.O.W. Gallery, NY; Galerie Schmidt Maczollek, Germany; and Nettie Horn Gallery, U.K. Her work in the collections of the National Gallery of Art, D.C.; the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, CA; Honolulu Museum of Art, HI; the Norton Museum, FL; and the Museum of Fine Arts Houston, TX.

JK RUSS

New Zealander JK Russ has lived and worked in Las Vegas since 2010. Inspired by the visual language of burlesque shows and vintage pornography, her collages and installations perform a surreal investigation into the erotics of public display. She has exhibited in New Zealand, Australia, and the Philippines; as well as the Nevada Museum of Art and El Museo Cultural de Santa Fe. Russ has created collaborative collage projects for the City of Las Vegas, the Life is Beautiful festival and P3 Studio at The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas.
SEAN RUSSELL

Las Vegas-based artist Sean Russell uses a range of media to explore the cultural and lived histories of landscapes and cityscapes. He has exhibited in Minneapolis, MN; Reno, NV; and locations throughout Las Vegas, including Blackbird Gallery and Donna Beam Fine Art. His murals are on permanent view in Las Vegas City Hall. UNLV MFA 2005.

DANIEL SAMANIEGO

Based in Oakland, CA, Daniel Samaniego combines fantastic and grotesque imagery to explore the interplay between private personas and public depictions of queer beauty. His meticulously-rendered graphic drawings have been exhibited in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Las Vegas. UNLV BFA 2007.

AARON SHEPPARD

Ludic and raw, the performances, drawings, paintings, and assemblages of Aaron Sheppard offer the viewer a world in which identity is fluid and experimentation is open to everyone. He has exhibited or performed at Western Project, CA; DUMBO Arts Center, NY; Trifecta, Las Vegas; and the Mermaid Parade of Joshua Tree, CA. UNLV MFA 2009.

The original Mermaid Parade, a celebration of vernacular art costuming, takes place annually in Coney Island, NYC. Wanting to honor the event at his new home in Joshua Tree, CA, ex-New Yorker (and ex-Las Vegan) Aaron Sheppard invited his friends to create their own costumes and curate a walk through the desert.
SEAN SLATTERY

Las Vegas-based artist Sean Slattery makes expressive work in digital and analogue media, shifting imagery from one mode to the other to disorient the viewer. Slattery’s work was recently exhibited in Tilting the Basin: Contemporary Art of Nevada, Nevada Museum of Art, Reno. He is part of the touring group show Valley of Faces: Pareidolia in the Basin and Range, originally exhibited at the Winchester Cultural Center Gallery, Las Vegas.

LANCE SMITH

Attentive to the fluidity of memory and representation, Las Vegas artist Lance Smith uses drawing, painting, and performance to highlight the profound reality of marginalized experiences. He has exhibited at numerous venues across Las Vegas, including Blackbird Gallery, Brett Wesley Gallery, The Studio, and VAST Space Projects. UNLV BFA 2011.

When I’m With You (Dayton) was painted in honor of the artist’s departed mother, Angela. Smith refers to this aspect of his practice as a connection between himself and the feminine energy of her remembered presence.

BRENT SOMMERHAUSER

Las Vegas-based sculptor Brent Sommerhauser constructs visible encounters between the material world and the energy of unseen forces such as wind and gravity. His work has been exhibited at galleries and other venues in Europe, Africa, South America, Canada, and across the United States. In 2017 he was featured in the pan-Nevadan group show, Tilting the Basin: Contemporary Art of Nevada.

LAURENS TAN

Analyzing cultural signifiers through sculpture, 3D animation and other media, Australian multidisciplinary artist Laurens Tan explores the ways in which language negotiates transformations in a globalizing world. Working out of studios in Las Vegas, Beijing, and Sydney, Tan has participated in residencies and exhibitions at the Museum of Art Seoul National University, S. Korea; University of Chicago (Beijing Center), China; the Murray Art Museum, NSW, Australia; and the City of Sydney's Chinese Lunar Lanterns Festival, NSW, Australia. His solo show, Babalogic in the Desert is on view at Sahara West Library until September 8.

“Beng Beng” is the colloquial name for a three-wheeled taxi common in Beijing. By highlighting the everyday culture of his adopted city, Tan reflects on the stubborn uniqueness of place in the face of global homogenization.
RYAN WALLACE

New York multimedia artist and gallerist Ryan Wallace recombines past work and studio detritus in an ongoing “churn” of invention, generating an oeuvre that straddles the border between sculpture, installation, and painting. Recipient of a Pollock Krasner Foundation Grant, Wallace has participated in exhibitions at Susan Inglett Gallery and Rachel Uffner Gallery, NY; Mark Moore Gallery, CA; Marianne Friis Gallery, Denmark; Frans Masreel Center, Belgium, and numerous other locations across Europe and the United States.

MARY WARNER

Northern Californian painter Mary Warner reimagines flowers into looming, larger-than-life presences, their bodies often caught in the process of corporeal decay. Warner’s paintings and drawings have appeared at the Whitney Museum of Art, and The Drawing Center, NY; Contemporary Art Museum, FL; VAST Space Projects, Las Vegas; and the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno.

MIKAYLA WHITMORE

Las Vegas photographer and installation artist Mikayla Whitmore uses the phantom realism of the photographic image to explore the elusiveness of place, time, and human memory. A Resident Artist at both the Cosmopolitan (2015) and the Neon Museum (2016), her work has appeared at Torrence Art Museum, CA; Humble Arts Foundation, NY; and in galleries and other venues across Las Vegas. UNLV BFA 2010.
THOMAS RAY WILLIS

Raised in Las Vegas and currently living and working in New York City, Thomas Ray Willis teases the imagined boundaries between fine art and the quotidian world by transforming traditional art materials into household items such as mallets, beds, flower pots, and—during his 2015 residency at the Cosmopolitan's P3 Studios—boutique bags and belts. His work has appeared at deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum, MA; Dorchester Art Project, MA; Socrates Sculpture Park, NY; and various Las Vegas galleries including the Contemporary Art Center and Trifecta. UNLV BFA 2009

In 1917, Marcel Duchamp’s Urinal inaugurated the idea that everyday objects could become art. A century later, Willis picks up a canvas and tests out the transformation in reverse.

AMY YOES

Raised in Texas and based in New York, Amy Yoes reconfigures historical uses of ornamentation and design through a range of media from painted wood sculpture to video animation. She has exhibited at the Museu de Arte Contemporânea, Portugal; Den Frie Udstilling, Denmark; D.U.M.B.O. Art Center, Brooklyn, NY; Wexner Center for the Arts, Ohio, and in a collaborative pop-up project with Catherine Borg at the Peppermill Fireside Lounge, Las Vegas (2006). UNLV AIR 2006.

ALMOND ZIGMUND

New York sculptor Almond Zigmund works to intensify the perception of the viewer in unexpected ways by juxtaposing form, color, texture, and architectural design in striking contrasts. Zigmund’s work has appeared at the Parrish Art Museum, NY; Las Vegas Art Museum, NV; and the University of La Verne, CA. It was featured in the landmark 2010 exhibition, Las Vegas Diaspora: The Emergence of Contemporary Art from the Neon Homeland. It is held in the collections of the New Museum, NY, and Pizzuti Collection, OH.

Plural (February 2-May 12, 2018)

Plural features artworks from the UNLV Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art’s permanent collection that explore complex aspects of human identity through a range of traditional and unconventional media. Memory, passion, voice, excess, race, gender, and intersectionality are all brought into question as we search for ways in which a museum collection can reflect our own multifaceted understanding of what we are.