

# ART + PRACTICE

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## PRESS RELEASE

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## Art + Practice Presents *A+P 2014-2015 Artists in Residence: Aalia Brown, Dale Brockman Davis, Sandy Rodriguez*

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Art + Practice

July 11 - August 29, 2015

Opening: July 11, 2015 3 - 6 pm



**(Los Angeles, CA)** - Art + Practice is pleased to announce *2014-15 Artists in Residence: Aalia Brown, Dale Brockman Davis, Sandy Rodriguez*, showcasing work produced in the last year by **Aalia Brown** and **Sandy Rodriguez**, and ephemeral selections from an ongoing archiving project focused on the historic Leimert Park gallery Brockman Gallery (later Brockman Gallery Productions), co-founded by **Dale Brockman Davis** and his brother Alonzo Davis. The exhibition will be on view July 11 through August 29, 2015 at Art + Practice's Leimert Park space at 4339 S. Leimert Blvd.

Founded in 2014 by the artist Mark Bradford, the philanthropist Eileen Harris Norton, and the social activist Allan DiCastro, Art + Practice launched its residency program by inviting three Los Angeles-based artists to participate in fourteen-month residencies. The artists were offered access to on-site studios and the opportunity to interact with the community through public programs such as artist talks and open studios. For its first year, the residency program hosted two artists with traditional studio practices [Brown and Rodriguez] and provided facilities and materials to support the Brockman Archive project.

Although they work in different mediums and with varying materials, the three residents share a commitment to investigating questions of history, presence, and absence.

Sandy Rodriguez (b. 1975, National City, California) paints the landscapes of cities experiencing

social and economic change. Working in series, she connects individual paintings by repeating a natural or human-made element in each canvas. Taking on another form of history, Aalia Brown (b. 1988, Karachi, Pakistan) investigates perceived absences in art history. Brown recycles the stylistic tropes of modernism, specifically the visual austerity of minimalism. But rather than using industrial-grade building materials such as steel, glass, or concrete, she deliberately uses low-grade commercial products like compressed plywood, Styrofoam, or cardboard. Spearheaded by the artist and educator Dale Davis (b. 1945, Tuskegee, Alabama) while in residence at Art + Practice, the Brockman Archive project is in the process of preserving more than twenty years' worth of ephemera, publications, correspondence, and records from the Brockman Gallery, which was housed at 4339 Degnan Boulevard, a storefront now occupied by Art + Practice, between 1967 and 1989. The gallery worked with and exhibited many important Los Angeles and national artists early in their careers, such as Betye Saar, Noah Purifoy, John Outterbridge, and David Hammons. The Davis brothers also organized public programs, including an annual film festival and concerts, and they curated exhibitions at or served as advisers to other galleries and institutions, such as the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the Studio Museum in Harlem.

The opening for *A+P 2014-2015 Artists in Residence: Aalia Brown, Dale Brockman Davis, Sandy Rodriguez* will take place on July 11, 2015 from 3 PM - 6 PM at 4339 Leimert Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90008.

#### **ABOUT AALIA BROWN**

Aalia Brown is a sculptor and writer born in Karachi, Pakistan, and raised in Yekaterinburg, Russia; Warsaw, Poland; and Washington, DC. She received her MFA in sculpture from the University of California, Los Angeles, and her BFA in photography and BA in art history from the University of Washington.

#### **ABOUT DALE BROCKMAN DAVIS**

Dale Brockman Davis is a multidisciplinary artist, teacher, community arts activist, and curator. He holds a BFA in ceramics from the University of Southern California. He cofounded the Brockman Gallery with his brother Alonzo Brockman Davis in 1967. Davis' multimedia work centers on the use of color, texture, and form to capture histories of the past. He has exhibited in numerous exhibitions, galleries, and contemporary art forums, including the Hammer Museum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Watts Towers Art Center, and the California African American Museum, all in Los Angeles; the Studio Museum in Harlem, New York; MoMA PS1, Long Island City, New York; the Haggerty Museum of Art, Marquette University, Milwaukee; and the San Luis Obispo Museum of Art, California. Davis was recognized for outstanding cultural contributions by Los Angeles City Council member Bernard Parks in 2012 and by former Los Angeles mayor Antonio Villaraigosa in 2009, and he received an acknowledgment for his cultural contributions to the community from the California State Senate in 1997.

#### **ABOUT SANDY RODRIGUEZ**

Sandy Rodriguez is an artist and an educator at the J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles. She was raised in San Diego, Tijuana, and Los Angeles. Her paintings capture moments of transformation in the social and cultural landscape of Los Angeles, with a focus on themes of the persistence of place, activism, and physical and cultural regeneration. Rodriguez has a BFA from California Institute of Arts and has exhibited at institutions such as the Museum of Contemporary Art San

Diego; Snite Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana; Walter Maciel Gallery, Los Angeles; Sonce Alexander Gallery, Los Angeles; and Avenue 50 Studios, Los Angeles.

### **ABOUT ART + PRACTICE**

Conceived and founded by artist Mark Bradford, philanthropist and collector Eileen Harris Norton and social activist Allan DiCastro, Art + Practice (A+P) is an arts and education private operating foundation based in Leimert Park, Los Angeles. A+P's mandate is to create a developmental platform that, on one hand, supports the acquisition of practical skills for foster youth, and, on the other, stresses the importance of creative activity within a larger social context.

### **A+P INFORMATION**

Admission to all exhibitions and public programs are free and available to the public.

To learn more visit [www.artandpractice.org](http://www.artandpractice.org).

Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 12 PM - 6 PM. A+P is located at 4339 Leimert Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90008. Street parking is available.

### **PRESS CONTACTS**

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### **PHOTO CREDITS**

Aalia Brown, *Equestrian statue of Dan Flavin*, 2013. Image courtesy of the artist.

Portrait of Dale Brockman Davis outside of Brockman Gallery, c. 1970. Image courtesy of the Brockman Gallery Archives.

Sandy Rodriguez, *Tear Gas No. 2 (Ferguson)*, 2014. Photo by Sean Shim-Boyle. Image courtesy of the artist.