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**THE CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM PRESENTS  
TATYANA FAZLALIZADEH: FINDING SOFT GROUND  
AT ART + PRACTICE**



(Los Angeles, CA) — The California African American Museum (CAAM) and Art + Practice (A+P) will present the exhibition *Tatyana Fazlalizadeh: Finding Soft Ground* at A+P in Leimert Park April 6 – August 10, 2024.

Tatyana Fazlalizadeh is a Brooklyn-based interdisciplinary artist whose practice considers Black image making as a site of protest, contestation, affirmation, and possibility. *Finding Soft Ground*, Fazlalizadeh's first exhibition at A+P, considers the conditions, precarity, and imaginative determination of safety for Black women. Utilizing A+P's three galleries, Fazlalizadeh transforms each space into distinct installations examining the street, home, and natural world in relation to terror and refuge. The works

in *Finding Soft Ground*—which include wheat-pasted prints, oil paintings, graphite drawings, a single-channel film, and site-specific materials—are rooted in Fazlalizadeh’s Black feminist theory.

*Finding Soft Ground* is presented in tandem with *Speaking to Fallen Seeds*, the artist’s installation in CAAM’s atrium of monumental portraits of Black Los Angeles women. Both exhibitions draw upon photographs and conversations that took place in the spring of 2023 while Fazlalizadeh was living in Los Angeles. CAAM is currently closed for repairs, but once it reopens *Tatyana Fazlalizadeh: Speaking to Fallen Seeds* will be on view there through August 3, 2025.

CAAM Executive Director Cameron Shaw said, “I’m pleased that we will expand our presentation of work by Tatyana Fazlalizadeh, whose large-scale, wheat-pasted portraits of Black Angelenos were instantly beloved by CAAM visitors when they debuted in August 2023 on our lobby walls.”

Essence Harden, who curated both exhibitions, said “*Finding Soft Ground* gives viewers the unique opportunity to delve deeper into Tatyana Fazlalizadeh’s work across a variety of media, and contemplate how safety is presumed, built, and felt for the city’s Black residents.”

This exhibition is curated by Essence Harden, Visual Arts Curator, CAAM, and is co-presented by CAAM and A+P as part of CAAM at A+P, a five-year collaboration.

**Opening program:**

Saturday, April 6, 2024, 2:00 p.m - 3:00 p.m.

In Conversation: Tatyana Fazlalizadeh and Essence Harden

**About the California African American Museum**

CAAM explores the art, history, and culture of African Americans, with an emphasis on California and the West. Chartered by the State of California in 1977, the Museum began formal operations in 1981 and is a state-supported agency and a Smithsonian Affiliate. In addition to presenting exhibitions and public programs, CAAM houses a permanent collection of more than 5,000 works of art, artifacts, and historical documents, and a publicly accessible research library. Admission to CAAM is free.

The museum is currently closed for storm-related repairs. CAAM is located in Exposition Park at the corner of Figueroa Street and Exposition Boulevard, west of the 110 (Harbor) Freeway. Exposition Park parking is available for \$15 (daytime) at 39th and

Figueroa Streets. The Metro Expo line Expo Park/USC station is a five-minute walk through the Exposition Park Rose Garden to the Museum.

### **About Art + Practice**

A+P is a private operating 501(c)3 foundation based in the neighborhood of Leimert Park in South Los Angeles. A+P supports the local needs of foster youth and children experiencing displacement worldwide through its collaborations with nonprofit providers First Place for Youth and Nest Global. A+P also provides Angelenos with access to museum-curated art exhibitions and diverse public programs, organized by CAAM. Admission to A+P is free.

Hours: Tuesday–Saturday 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Closed Sundays, Mondays, and select national holidays. A+P is located in historic Leimert Park Village at 3401 W. 43rd Place, Los Angeles, with a space for public programs across the street at 4334 Degnan Boulevard. There is metered parking on Degnan Boulevard and W. 43rd Place. Free street parking can be found in the neighboring residential area with a two-block walk to A+P. Bus lines that stop nearby are 40, 102, 210, 705, 710, and 740. A+P is also serviced by the Metro K Rail Line. The station is Leimert Park.

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### **Image:**

Page 1: Tatyana Fazlalizadeh, *Gwen and Her Grandbaby*, 2022 (installation view). Oil, acrylic, and vintage photograph on canvas