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# THE SAN DIEGO VISUAL ARTS NETWORK

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[www.SDVisualArts.net](http://www.SDVisualArts.net)  
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## [SD Art Prize 2020](#) Artists at [Bread & Salt](#) Reception

*San Diego, Aug. 18, 2020* - We are pleased to announce the four artist recipients of the 2020 SD Art Prize will open September 5th through October 24th at Bread & Salt Gallery in Barrio Logan with [Alanna Airitam](#), [Kaori Fukuyama](#), [Griselda Rosas](#), and [Melissa Walter](#). The original date in May for the 13<sup>th</sup> year of the Art Prize was postponed due to the Covid-19 quarantine. To maintain proper social distancing Bread & Salt will have a timed entrance opening **Sat. Sept. 5th, 5pm-8pm**, allowing waiting visitors to enter to keep proper social distancing. For the run of the exhibition, attendance will be by appointment [breadandsalt@gmail.com](mailto:breadandsalt@gmail.com) but check the website for changes.

For the first time, all four recipients are women which is more than fitting as this is the centennial of women's right to vote. We are pleased to present a mix of mediums and diversity of ethnicities in this year exhibition. All four women will share in the cash prize and were previously shown at [Art San Diego](#) in the fall of 2019. We are grateful to Bread and Salt for stepping up due to the pandemic closure of the Athenaeum in La Jolla.

A [full catalog](#) of this year's recipients with a forward by curator **Chi Essary** and an introduction by **Robert Pincus** is available online and to purchase in hard copy for the first time. Words of support for the artists come from **Julia Dixon Evans**, Editor/Producer Arts Calendar, KPBS, **Christine E. Jones**, Chief of Civic Art Strategies, The City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture, **Maria Mingalone**, Executive Director, Oceanside Museum of Art and **Susana Smith Bautista**, Ph.D, Museum Advisor, Los Angeles. We are grateful to the designer Alexander Kohnke and Neyenesch Printers for their contributions to this upgrade.

Bios, photos and links to the four finalists are below.

The [SD ART PRIZE](#) is dedicated to the idea that the visual arts are a necessary and rewarding ingredient of any world-class city and a building block of the lifestyle of its residents. Conceived to promote and encourage dialogue, reflection and social interaction about San Diego's artistic and cultural life, this annual award honors artistic expression. The **SD ART PRIZE**, a cash prize with exhibition opportunities, spotlights established San Diego artists and emerging artists whose outstanding achievements in the field of Visual Arts merit the recognition.

[San Diego Visual Arts Network](#) strives to improve the clarity, accuracy and sophistication of discourse about San Diego's artistic and cultural life. SDVAN provides a resource-rich website and facilitates countless opportunities for inspiration and collaboration on visual arts projects. This is the only site designed exclusively for Visual Arts in the San Diego region. SDVAN is a 100% volunteer non-profit organization dedicated to reinforcing the idea that the visual arts are a necessary and vital part of the health of our city. SDVAN list over 2500 visual arts resources and gets about one million hits a year.

[Bread & Salt](#) is a 45,000 square-foot gallery and arts hub located 15 miles north of the U.S./Mexico border in San Diego's Barrio Logan neighborhood. Bread & Salt hosts original works by international artists, eclectic events, and a

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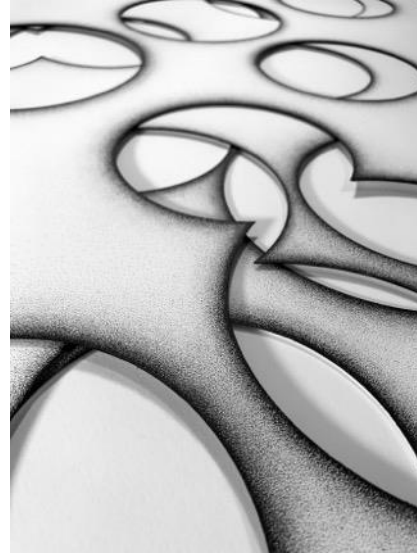
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curated assemblage of artisans, educational entities, and non-profit tenants along with a robust residency program, newly-launched publishing house, and live virtual artist and arts-related interviews initiated in response to the COVID-19 quarantine. It is comprised of multiple gallery, studio, and event spaces, and serves as a cultural center and gathering space for the region's creative community.

### SD Art Prize 2020 Finalists



**MELISSA WALTER** is best known for her optically stimulating sculptures of twisting paper and drawings of detailed geometric patterns. She visually explores concepts concerning Astronomy and astrophysical theories. Walter has worked as a graphic designer and science illustrator for NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory and as a team member of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics. Her experience has inspired her to visually articulate wonders of the Universe, such as black holes, supernovas, neutron stars, dark matter and more recently, dark energy.

Walter has completed artist in residence programs at 1805 Gallery and Bread & Salt, and participated in exhibitions at the Smithsonian's S. Dillon Ripley Center, Quint Gallery, the San Diego Art Institute, Torrance Art Museum, Helmuth Projects and the San Diego International Airport for a temporary exhibition titled Intergalactic Dreaming in 2017. She received her BFA, cum laude from the University of Rhode Island in 1998.

<http://www.melissawalterart.com/>

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**KAORI FUKUYAMA** is a multi-disciplinary artist from Japan, who lives and works in San Diego. She creates paintings, drawings, sculptures, and site-specific installations that explore the interactions of color, light and shadow. Her subtle and delicately balanced work plays with our visual perception, and often invites us to slow down and be present in the moment.

Kaori Fukuyama was an Artist-In-Residence at Bread & Salt in 2018, and recently completed a large-scale public art installation in North Park (San Diego). Her work is a part of private collections internationally and has been exhibited at multiple institutions including Oceanside Museum of Art, Laguna Art Museum, San Luis Obispo Museum of Art, San Diego Art Institute, The Athenaeum Music & Arts Library, and William D. Cannon Art Gallery. Fukuyama enjoys teaching at The Athenaeum Music & Arts Library, and continues to expand her artistic boundaries.

<https://www.kaorifukuyama.com>

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Photographer **ALANNA AIRTRAM** was born in Queens, New York and now resides in San Diego, California. As a portrait photographer, her work focuses on identity and representation, and proposes an investigation into the concept of wholeness. Her use of chiaroscuro lighting creates a painterly effect, that coupled with her use of symbolism allows her to explore the duality of light and dark both metaphorically and literally. Her subjects are illuminated in a way that calls for them to be viewed as the counter to contemporary stereotypes.

Airitam's images have been published in a variety of national and international media outlets such as Chicago Tribune, BBC News, VICE!, The Huck, Lenscratch, Range Finder, Feature Shoot, and the San Diego Tribune, among many others. Airitam has exhibited at Catherine Edelman Gallery in Chicago, San Diego Art Institute, Art Miami, and Bread & Salt in San Diego, California. An award winning short film From Harlem to Harlem about Alanna Airitam's body of work The Golden Age has been screened at various film festivals around the United States.

<https://www.alannaairitam.com>



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**GRISELDA ROSAS** (Born and Raised in Tijuana, Mexico) is an artist and educator from the border region. Her artwork falls under the umbrella of Post-Colonial art, in the way it addresses issues of identity, ethnicity and gender practices creating installation, sculpture, site-specific, curatorial projects and stitching-Paintings decolonizing imagery.

Griselda's work has been exhibited in national and international venues, The Florence Biennale, Italy, The Barrett Art Centre, New York, art residency at the *Camac* art Centre- UNESCO program Marnay, France, Bread & Salt Gallery, San Diego, CA and at the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego.

Granted a fellowship through the minister of Mexican Culture -FONCA, 2016-2019 - developing a research on the aesthetics of Mexican female traditional clothing, -presenting and publishing her research at the 56th International *Congress* of Americanists (ICA) Salamanca, Spain 2018. Griselda's work has a strong relationship with poetry and mind wandering, speaks about the ecosystem's fragility through an implicit construction of historical-imagery-memorabilia.

<http://www.griseldarosas.com/untitled-gallery>

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