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[San Diego Visual Arts Network](#) presents [Art San Diego 2019: From Folk to Artificial Intelligence](#)

SAN DIEGO (Aug 30, 2019) – **From Folk to Artificial Intelligence** is an abbreviated survey of San Diego art today curated by **Vallo Riberto** at the San Diego Convention Center Booth #122 (Hall E 111 W Harbor Dr. SD, 92101) from Thurs, Oct 10 to Sun, Oct 13, 2019.

Vallo Riberto, former gallery director at Southwestern College and current president of the Contemporary Art Committee of the San Diego Museum of Art and independent curator is joining the four finalists, [Alanna Airitam](#), [Kaori Fukuyama](#), [Griselda Rosas](#), and [Melissa Walter](#) nominated for the San Diego Art Prize 2020 with seven independent, artists representing a purview of San Diego, Tijuana, regional, visual art practice: [Ernesto Bogarin](#), [John Dillemath](#), [Shuichi Hashimoto](#), [Kazmier Maslanka](#), [Gustavo Mayoral](#), [Neil Shigley](#), [Ron Tatro](#) and [Cindy Zimmerman](#).

This grouping starts with the four finalist at booth #122 exhibiting [Griselda Rosas](#) showing art dealing with Post-Colonial identity [Alanna Airitam](#) examines cultural representation, [Kaori Fukuyama](#) includes works that play with our visual perception and [Melissa Walter](#) takes us to black holes, supernovas, neutron stars, dark matter and dark energy matter. Read the full press release on these artists: [SD Art Prize 2020 Finalist Announced](#).

Along with the four nominees are seven independent artists curated by **Vallo Riberto**. All together these artists create a purview of San Diego art today: **From Folk to Artificial Intelligence**. [Ernesto Bogarin](#) offers his ceramic, folk renditions of ancient, indigenous peoples. [Cindy Zimmerman](#) explores old stories surrounding the biblical and folkloric character. A nationally acclaimed, San Diego printmaker and educator, [Neil Shigley](#) creates visually arresting, giant format portraits of homeless, street people, hand cut and printed from full sheets of Plexiglas. He was recently a first prize nominee at the National Portrait Gallery, Washington D.C, where he has exhibited his work, two consecutive years running. **Shuichi Hashimoto** creates stunningly beautiful digitally printed scrolls of his beloved, child hood landscape, the sacred waterfall at Mino no Mori, mountain shrine, Osaka, Japan. [John Dillemath](#) combines and shapes found wooden branches and fabrics into whimsical objects, some with latent erotic sub texts. [Ron Tatro](#) continues to explore digital applications applied to traditional sculptural processes to create his iconic 'Head' collages and sculptures. [Kazmier Maslanka](#) has an international, on line following for his esoteric compositions that employ a little known, hybridized language, Mathematical Visual Poetry. [Gustavo Mayoral](#) is on hand, exhibiting his hybrid, robotic constructs, implementing artificial intelligence software of



his own authorship that allows viewers to participate and interact on very personal and intimate levels of exchange.

What: SD Art Prize Finalist & From Folk to Artificial Intelligence at Art San Diego

Where: San Diego Convention Center Booth #122, Hall E 111 W Harbor Dr. SD, 92101

When: Thurs, Oct 10 to Sun, Oct 13, 2019.

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 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.

[Art San Diego](#) a contemporary art show in the heart of southern California featuring an international slate of artists and galleries. The show features over 500 leading contemporary artists, museum exhibitions, Art Labs, SD Art Prize, events, and Art Talks focused on collecting. Now in its eleventh year, the four-day event attracts over 15,000 high-net-worth collectors. Since its inception in 2009, Art San Diego has become one of the leading cultural events and inspired attendees from all over the world. ASD 2019 aims to play a key role in San Diego's rich array of cultural events, nurturing and strengthening the city's art scene with a dynamic agenda.

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See images and bios below



[Alanna Airitam](#) is a portrait photographer whose 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. An award winning short film *From Harlem to Harlem* about Alanna Airitam's body of work has been screened at various film festivals around the United States.



[Ernesto Bogarin](#) is a self-taught, Mexican American folk artist and a single parent. Bogarin creates colorful, glazed and polychromed, ceramic figures. Some works are autonomous, stand-alone figures like *El Perfumista*, while others are grouped together to form complex, sometimes whimsical, tableaus, referencing ancient, indigenous peoples and cultures such as Mayan or Chinese. Bogarin is able to use discarded materials and bring them back to a new and more perfect life full of meaning.



[John Dillemath](#) is a singularly unique, mid-career artist with an international exhibition record. At most recent retrospective at the Oceanside Museum of Art, his paintings, sculpture and sculptural-installations, comprised of hand crafted wood and fabric constructions. These are often motorized and with intricately hand carved gears and leavers that animate many of these works with a sense of whimsy and wonder and in some instances an endearing, almost innocent, implied eroticism.



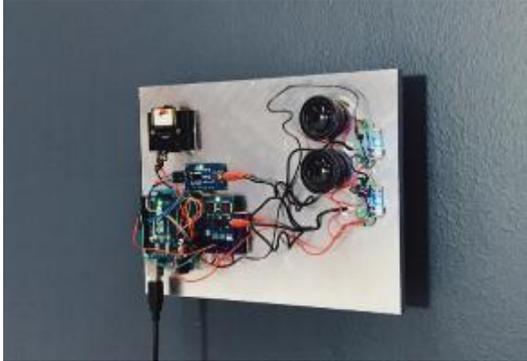
[Kaori Fukuyama](#) creates paintings, drawings, sculptures, and site-specific installations that explore the interactions of color, light and shadow. Her subtle and delicately balanced work plays with our visual perception, and often invites us to slow down and be present in the moment. She most recently 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. Kaori Fukuyama enjoys teaching at The Athenaeum Music & Arts Library.



Shuichi Hashimoto creates stunningly beautiful, digital prints of landscapes, a recent series of which were sold out at the Japanese Friendship Gardens in Balboa Park. These exquisitely crafted prints will be available at the San Diego Art Fair. Hashimoto is represented by Mr. Toru Nakatani, a long time, Japanese American, San Diego resident and Director of the Zone Contemporary Art Gallery.



[Kazmier Maslanka](#) has a worldwide online following. His work is associated with a little known, international association of mathematicians cum artists, who for the past twenty five years, have met in annual conferences. They publish their creative works under the hubris, *Mathematical Visual Poetry*. Maslanka's work within this genre has positioned him as a standout, stand alone, artist. His art is intellectually and visually original, but also challenging. His work expresses some of our most profound questions and relationships regarding the human condition, our relationship to each other, our environment, and the cosmos.



[Gustavo Mayoral](#) gave up his day job as a systems analysis and software engineer to pursue his passion for art. In a very short time, he has made spectacular progress. By combining and implementing his vast computer skills with his very quirky sense humor, he has created some of the most interesting and captivating, interactive robotic constructs. They employ artificial intelligent software components authored by him, which allow viewers to participate and interact on very personal and sometimes intimate levels of exchange.



[Griselda Rosas](#) 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. Rosas' work has been exhibited in national and international venues including The Florence Biennale, Italy and The Barrett Art Centre, New York. Griselda Rosas' work has a strong relationship with poetry and mind wandering, speaks about the ecosystem's fragility through an implicit construction of historical-imagery-memorabilia.



[Neil Shigley](#) is a painter, printmaker and educator. He grew up the son of a military officer living in Europe, the Far East as well as several parts of the U.S. He studied at San Diego State University and Pasadena's Art Center College of Design. He worked as an award-winning, free-lance illustrator for many Fortune 500 companies while in New York. Shigley creates large format portraits of homeless, street people, which he hand cuts from large sheets of Plexiglas, and then inked and printed by the traditional hand rubbed process. His shows include the National Portrait Gallery, Washington D.C, annual exhibitions, where he was a purchase award nominee.



[Ron Tatro](#) refers to himself as a collagist, he assembles, takes apart and reassembles a variety of materials, from welded metals to gluing paper and cardboard. His ongoing theme, shown, and collected domestically and abroad is his iconic, abstracted, head shape. Tatro has combined and recombined, configured and reconfigured an impressive array of these, sometime colorful, sometime stark or minimal forms in a wide range of materials and applications. They are instantly recognizable and continue to evolve by combing traditional or conventional modes of production with his current investigations with digital software applications.



[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. Walter has 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. Melissa Walter received her BFA, cum laude from the University of Rhode Island in 1998.



[Cindy Zimmerman](#) is a narrative painter, a community artist, adjunct professor, and all-around instigator. She got her MFA at UCSD, her BFA at Oklahoma U. Her recent work is an irreverent and unrepentant version of the many old stories surrounding the biblical and folkloric character, Mary Magdalen.