



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EXHIBITION OPENING – Women Who Paint

Saturday, February 3, 2018 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Ginger Elliott Center – 840 N Indian Hill Blvd

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Women Who Paint

Presented by Claremont Heritage

CLAREMONT, CA | January 16, 2018 Claremont Heritage is pleased to announce the start of our Cultural Programming for 2018 with a new exhibition entitled, ***Women Who Paint***, curated by artist and gallerist **Barbara Beretich**. The exhibition will be presented at the *Ginger Elliott Exhibition Center*, located in the historic Garner House, home to Claremont Heritage at 840 N Indian Hill Blvd. Claremont, CA 91711. An Opening Reception will take place on Saturday, February 3, 2018 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. The exhibition will run through Friday, February 23rd and will be open during our regular business hours: Monday - Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm or by appointment. Many of the works will be available for sale.

Barbara Beretich has been an integral part of the Claremont Art Scene for over 50 years. Considered by many to be the Grande Dame of Claremont's illustrious Art and Culture Community, Barbara not only produced her own work, but also promoted many of the significant artists who emerged in Claremont during the mid-twentieth century. Inspired and mentored by Millard Sheets, Beretich did her MFA work at the Claremont Graduate School (now University) and later was hired by Sheets to run the seminal Gallery 8 in Claremont's Village. Later, Beretich opened Galleria Beretich in her magnificent home on Harvard Ave. in historic Claremont and represented many local artists including Millard Sheets, Milford Zornes, Phil Dike, etc. Not necessarily one to promote her own work, Barbara focused her energies on creating groundbreaking exhibitions that drew art collectors from as far away as the East Coast and even Europe.

Women Who Paint features a number of the female artists that Beretich represented in her decades long career. They include, **Susan Lautmann Hertel**, a mainstay at the Millard Sheets Studio, who produced many of the important mosaics featured on Home Savings Banks in California and beyond; **Francoise Gilot**, known as lover and artistic muse of Pablo Picasso from 1943 to 1953, and the mother of their two children, Claude and Paloma. She later married the American vaccine pioneer Jonas Salk; **Marion Hewlett Pike**, primarily a portrait artist and socialite who often painted her friends including Ronald Reagan and Coco Chanel. Her portrait of Reagan appeared on the cover of Time Magazine and she was named a Times Woman of the Year in 1955; **Cita Scott**, a master of exuberant still-life paintings; **Lucette Bourdin**, a French painter of vivid landscapes, as well as an accomplished ambient musician; **Kamala Das**, the controversial feminist Indian poet, considered by some to be the literary enfant terrible of the swinging 70's, picked up a paintbrush after her husband's death and produced a series of nudes entitled *Incomplete Woman*; **Martha Menke Underwood** was another Sheets Studio regular, Martha studied under some of the most influential artists working in Southern California at mid-twentieth century. Names like Millard Sheets, Phil Dike, Jean Ames, Rex Brandt, Robert E Wood, Gerald Brommer, and Milford Zornes among others.



Clockwise L – R | Susan Lautmann Hertel, Françoise Gilot, Marion Hewlett Pike, Martha Underwood, Kamala Das, Lucette Bourdin

If you would like more information about this exhibition, please contact David Shearer at (909) 621-0848, or email director@claremontheritage.org