

Media contacts

Danielle Smith | danielle@frameworksf.com

Kimberly Verde | kv@frameworksf.com

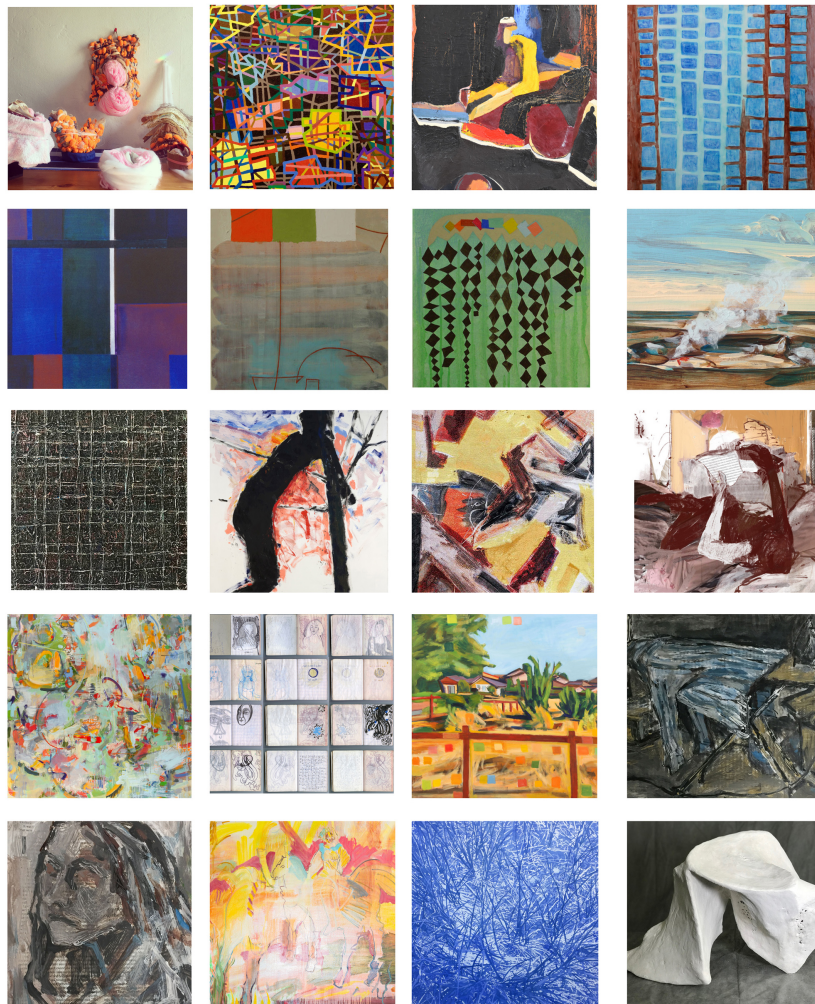
**Hackett Mill presents:
*NYSS: West Coast Connections***

August 23-October 19

Public Reception: September 6th from 7-8PM

Hackett Mill
145 Natoma St. Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 9410
www.hackettmill.com
(415) 362-3377

*Group exhibition of West Coast-Dwelling New York Studio School Alumni
curated by Karen Wilkin*



August 3, San Francisco, Calif.—Hackett Mill is pleased to present **NYSS: West Coast Connections**, the first showcase to celebrate the West Coast alumni of the New York Studio School of Drawing, Painting, and Sculpture. www.hackettmill.com

Baldwin, Sarah Blaustein, Manli Chao, Christina Chow, Shruti Ghatak, Rebecca Levinson, Mila Libman, Noreen Naughton, Jack Miller, Katelynn Mills, Hearne Pardee, Paige Pedri, Jon Rogers, Katie Ruiz, Eli Slaydon, Sandy Walker, Gina Werfel and Marie Peter-Toltz.

In 1963, an article appeared in *ARTnews* by painter and educator Mercedes Matter illuminating the frustration art students commonly felt by the frantic pace and disjointed courses of contemporary art education. The stirring effect of the article prompted Matter and her students to form a new approach to art education, resulting in their founding of the New York Studio School of Drawing, Painting and Sculpture in 1964. Since its inception, the institution has been praised for its exceptional pedagogy that prioritizes an atelier process of intensive work in the studio, often mentored by established artists mature in their careers. This alternative learning method has developed the practices of some of the most notable artists of our day.

Integral to the NYSS course of study are deep investigations of drawing, what the institution considers the most crucial pathway to understanding in art and the necessary bond for other disciplines. This focus builds a solid foundation for the students to go on to develop highly individualistic practices where different mediums are introduced. For *West Coast Connections* Hackett Mill invited esteemed curator Karen Wilkin to select works by NYSS alumni now living on the West Coast whose work exemplifies the integrity of their committed practice. The exhibition presents approximately 20 works comprising painting, drawing and sculpture. Of the work, Wilkin says:

The Studio School's emphasis on drawing made itself felt, sometimes more obviously, sometimes more subtly, but always there. Everything seemed predicated on a firm understanding of structure and of how space may be alluded to in the service of that structure. Everyone seemed to be seeking to elicit the maximum amount of expressiveness from their chosen medium and to exploit its special characteristics. As a result, everyone seemed dedicated to advancing what the British sculptor Anthony Caro called "the onward of art." They were all doing so through purely visual means, wordlessly, without irony.

About Hackett Mill

Hackett Mill, founded by Michael Hackett and Francis Mill, presents rare works from the 1950s and 1960s by significant American, European, and Asian artists. The gallery provides a platform for unique juxtapositions between the historical and the contemporary by offering a contextual and scholarly scaffolding to create exciting collections that span movements and eras, united by the universal truth of the artistic struggle. Engaging their passion and deep insight for art and architecture, Hackett and Mill share a genuine and infectious enthusiasm for creating unique and personalized client experiences, imparting erudite and inspirational perspectives for building collections. The gallery represents the estates of David Park and Robert Schwartz and the artists David Beck, Masatoyo Kishi, Manuel Neri, Raimonds Staprans and Brian Wall.

For more information: hackettmill.com | 415-362-3377

Gallery Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 10AM - 5PM

Press inquiries contact FRAMEWORK: danielle@frameworksf.com