

Evolution of Print **ARTISTS FROM KALA**

For over three decades, the Kala Art Institute has fostered artistic innovation and excellence through artist-in-residence and fellowship programs that attract regional, national and international artists. The range of media supported by their facilities includes printmaking, photography, book arts, digital media and video. The 24 artists featured in this exhibition are representative of Kala's diverse artistic community and the important creative production made possible through their efforts.

Archana Horsting and Yuzo Nakano founded Kala in 1974 as an international workshop devoted to the art of traditional printmaking. Located in the former Heinz Ketchup Factory in West Berkeley, Kala has expanded its vision to include other media and new technology. The current array of equipment made available to artists and students is phenomenal and out of reach for any one individual. Within this multi-disciplinary atmosphere, artists have the rare opportunity to exchange ideas, collaborate and experiment freely with very specialized media.

Space in the highly competitive residency and fellowship programs is awarded on an annual basis to over a hundred artists. Kala increases appreciation of their work through exhibitions, public programming and educational outreach. The curriculum-based Artists-in-Schools program connects resident and fellow artists with public school students in Berkeley, Emeryville and Oakland.

All together, Kala serves approximately 25,000 individuals a year, many of them from the East Bay. The diversity of artists and ways of working supported by this extraordinary institution greatly benefits the cultural life of Northern California and beyond.

Carin Adams *Associate Curator*

