

Faculty Pub Night

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Fall 9-16-2014

Valley Vista: Art in the San Fernando Valley, ca. 1970-1990

Damon Willick Loyola Marymount University, damon.willick@lmu.edu

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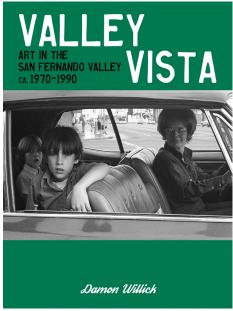
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Date: STeptember 16, 2014 Speaker: Damon Willick





About the Author

Damon Willick is is Professor and Chair of the Department of Art History. He teaches courses in modern and contemporary art and has a particular research concentration on American visual culture of the post-World War II period. He received his Ph.D. in Art History from UCLA in 2004 where he also completed his undergraduate studies. He is the author of *Valley Vista: Art in the San Fernando Valley, ca. 1970-1990* (Angel City Press, 2014) and has written for journals including *X-TRA, Art Lies, Artpulse, Spiritus, East of Borneo,* and *NKA Journal of Contemporary African Art* as well as numerous book chapters and museum catalog essays. Dr. Willick is an active curator and art critic, and currently serves as a contributing editor of the journal *X-TRA Contemporary Art Quarterly*.

About the Author's Work

Whether regaled as "America's Suburb" or ridiculed as the capital of mini-malls and Valley Girls, the San Fernando Valley is one of Los Angeles's most misunderstood and stereotyped areas. With a population of over 1.8 million and extending some 224 square miles, the Valley's size has not garnered the region much attention in regards to LA's cultural history. Damon Willick's book *Valley Vista: Art in the San Fernando Valley, ca. 1970-1990* seeks to remedy this oversight by examining for the first time the unique contribution of the Valley to the city's art history. The book accompanies an exhibition on display at the California State University, Northridge Art Gallery from August 25 through October 11. Willick's work looks beyond the stereotypes, and, instead, offers an alternative narrative documenting the region's unrecognized yet unique and substantial role in LA's emergence as a center of contemporary art activity.