



8 Standout Artists from the Hammer Museum's "Made in L.A. 2023: Acts of Living"

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"Made in L.A. 2023: Acts of Living," the sixth iteration of the [Hammer Museum](#)'s biennial exhibition, places a spotlight on 39 intergenerational artists and their works, spanning painting, drawing, ceramics, live performance, installation, and sculpture. On view through December 31, 2023, the exhibition [seeks to](#) position art "as an expanded field of culture that is entangled with everyday life; community networks; queer affect; and indigenous and diasporic histories." The biennial was co-curated by Diana Nawi and Pablo José Ramírez with curatorial fellow Ashton Cooper.

Nawi shared that she and curator Ramírez found inspiration for the exhibition's title during a visit to Watts Towers in South Central Los Angeles, where they encountered a quote from artist [Noah Purifoy](#): "One does not have to be a visual artist to utilize creative potential. Creativity can be an act of living, a way of life, and a formula for doing the right thing."

After conducting 200 studio visits within 12 months, from the San Fernando Valley to Long Beach and the outskirts of Palm Springs, Nawi and her collaborators realized that each artist "has their own

map [of Los Angeles] and everyone has their own experience.” As Nawi explained, the biennial presents a selection of artists whose work explores the questions: “What is landscape? What is place? What does it mean to be here?” Here, we highlight eight standout artists of “Made in L.A. 2023: Acts of Living.”

Teresa Baker

B. 1985, Watford City, North Dakota. Lives and works in Los Angeles.



Installation view of works by Teresa Baker in “Made in L.A. 2023: Acts of Living” at the Hammer Museum. Photo by Ashley Kruthoff. Courtesy of the artist and the Hammer Museum.

Teresa Baker's textile works are made up of bold, graphic shapes, colors, and lines. Each work has its own unique patterns, making each one distinctive and personal. Created with colorful yarn and artificial turf, Baker's work moves between the genres of landscape and abstraction.

In these works, Baker seeks to highlight the relationship between indigenous subjectivity and land sovereignty. This directly references Baker's Mandan/Hidatsa heritage in North Dakota. Her choice of textures and colors are a reflection of her upbringing in the diverse landscape of the Northern Plains; the richness of this land is echoed in the freeform patterns found throughout Baker's work.

Baker is an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes in western North Dakota. She received a BA from Fordham University in 2008 and an MFA from California College of the Arts in 2013. She has had solo exhibitions at de boer in Los Angeles (2021), Interface Gallery in Oakland (2019), and the Art Museum of Southeast Texas in Beaumont (2016).