



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR • ART BASEL MIAMI BEACH 2023

SHIZU SALDAMANDO

EXISTIR • ART BASEL MIAMI BEACH 2023

Shizu Saldamando's work depicts American social spaces through portraiture. Her work celebrates peers, friends, and loved ones through paintings and drawings that honor the brief moments of connection that occur throughout daily life. Shizu was born and raised in San Francisco's Mission District and currently lives and works in Los Angeles. She received her B.A. from UCLA School of Arts and Architecture and her M.F.A. from California Institute of the Arts.

Solo exhibitions include LA Intersections, Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA; Shizu Saldamando, Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, Scottsdale, AZ; To Return, Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles, CA; When You Sleep: A Survey of Shizu Saldamando, Vincent Price Art Museum, Monterey Park, CA; All Tomorrow's Parties, Moore College of Art and Design, Philadelphia, PA. Selected group exhibitions include: Phantom Sightings at Los Angeles County Museum of Art; Trans-Pacific Borderlands, part of the Getty Pacific Standard Time initiative at the Japanese American National Museum, Los Angeles, CA; We Must Risk Delight: Twenty Artists from Los Angeles, an official collateral exhibition of the Venice Biennale; Drawing the Line at Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, CA and The High Art of Riding Low at the Petersen Automotive Museum, Los Angeles, CA.

Saldamando's work resides in the permanent collections of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, the Santa Barbara Museum of Art, the Crocker Art Museum, Princeton University Museum of Art, Oakland Museum of California, the Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art & Culture of the Riverside Art Museum Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, National Museum of Mexican Art, Fidelity Collection, Cleveland Clinic Collection, and numerous other public and private collections. Saldamando lives and works in Los Angeles and is represented by Charlie James Gallery.

Artist Instagram: @shizutattoo



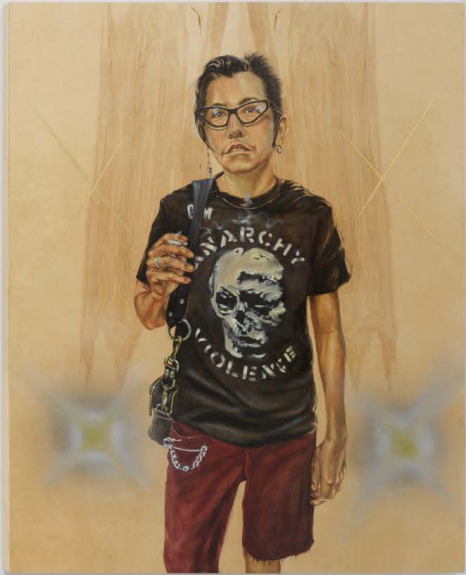
SHIZU SALDAMANDO

EXISTIR • ART BASEL MIAMI BEACH 2023

Artist Statement on *Existir* Works for Art Basel Miami Beach 2023

"I do portraits celebrating people, friends and peers, many of whom are activists, brown, queer, trans, Indigenous, immigrants, femme and the like, who exist regardless of legislation and historical erasure. The detailed, yet minimal portraits are homage to people in my circles who I've come to admire for varying reasons. I use bare wood panels as a ready-made backdrop while also referencing the scrap wood sculptures my grandfather would make when he was incarcerated in the Japanese American prison camps during WWII. The wood panels allow the portraits to become sculptural and the transparency of the oil paint allows the wood grain to show through in order to acknowledge a more ephemeral, and fluid subject-hood. The floral works are born out of communal crafting done in the Japanese American Incarceration camps during WWII and are based off of paper rose patterns found in the archives of the Manzanar prison camp. To acknowledge and pay respects to those who have endured through incarceration, colonization, pandemics, genocides, I offer the floral works as a pause for reflection and space for communal mourning. The historical roots of which were inspired out of communal crafting that families would make while imprisoned. They are made from traditional Japanese washi papers, floral ribbon, found chain-link fence parts, and gardening trellises."

SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR

Shizu Saldamando
Pony Lee at Friendsgiving
Oil paint, metal leaf, washi paper
on wood panel
60 x 48 inches
2023



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR

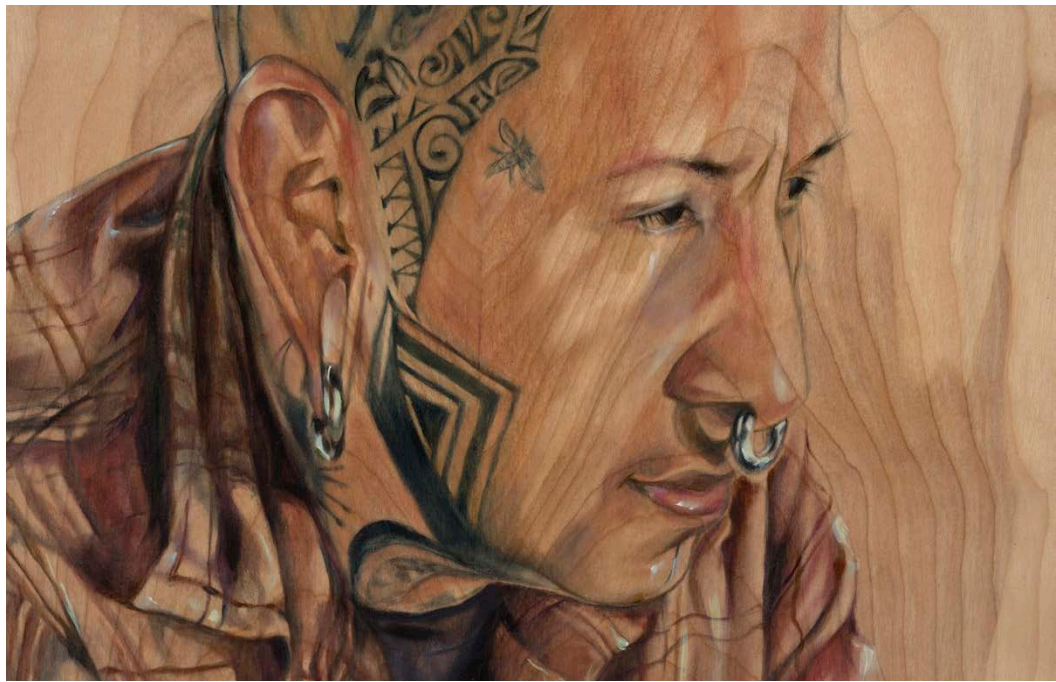
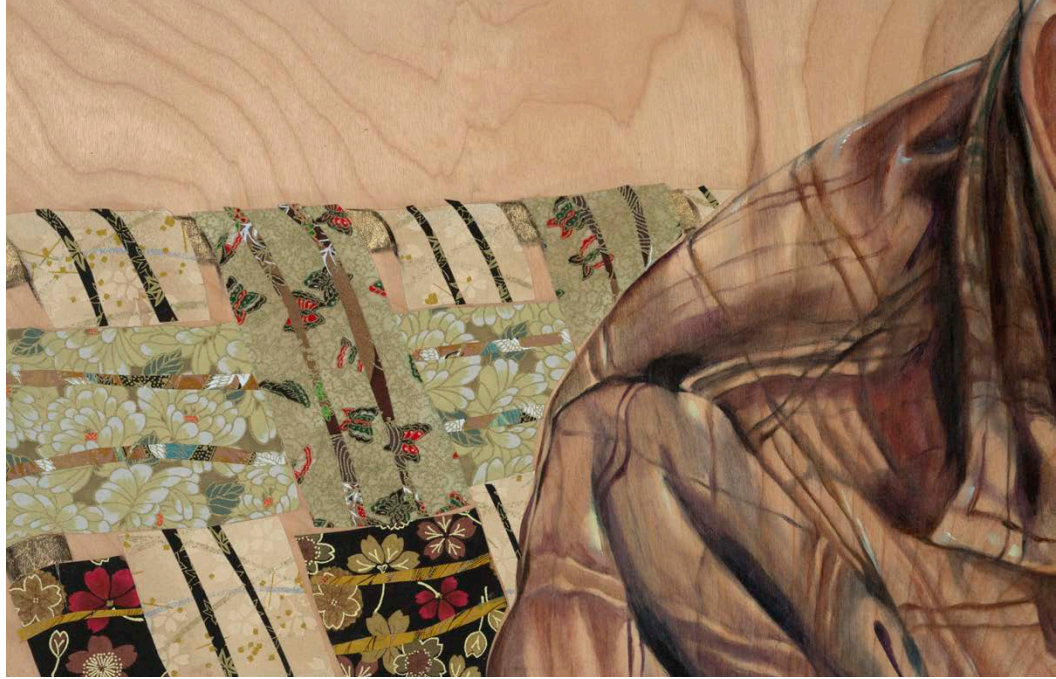


SHIZU SALDAMANDO

EXISTIR

Artist Note on the Subject:

Pony Lee Musgrave is a performance artist, hair stylist, founder of Folklore Salons in Southern California and icon of L.A.'s leather community. We both attended Nao Bustamante's friendsgiving last year and I took a photo of them by the firepit for this portrait.



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR

Shizu Saldamando
Angel in Virgin de Guadalupe Shorts
Oil, glitter, washi paper on wood panel
60 x 48 inches
2023



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR

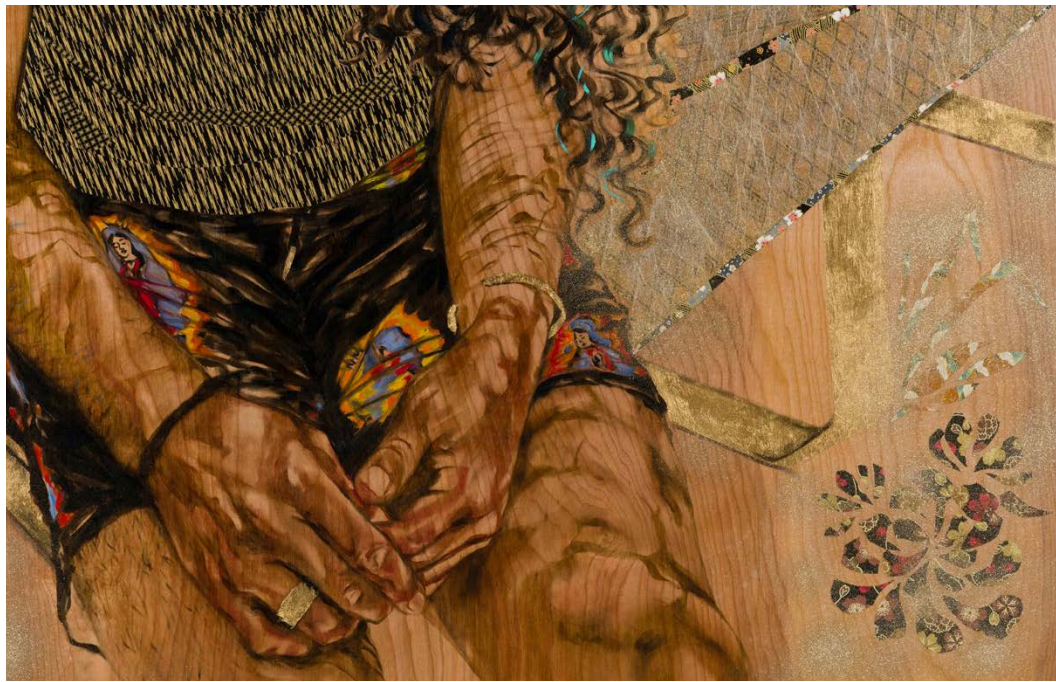


SHIZU SALDAMANDO

EXISTIR

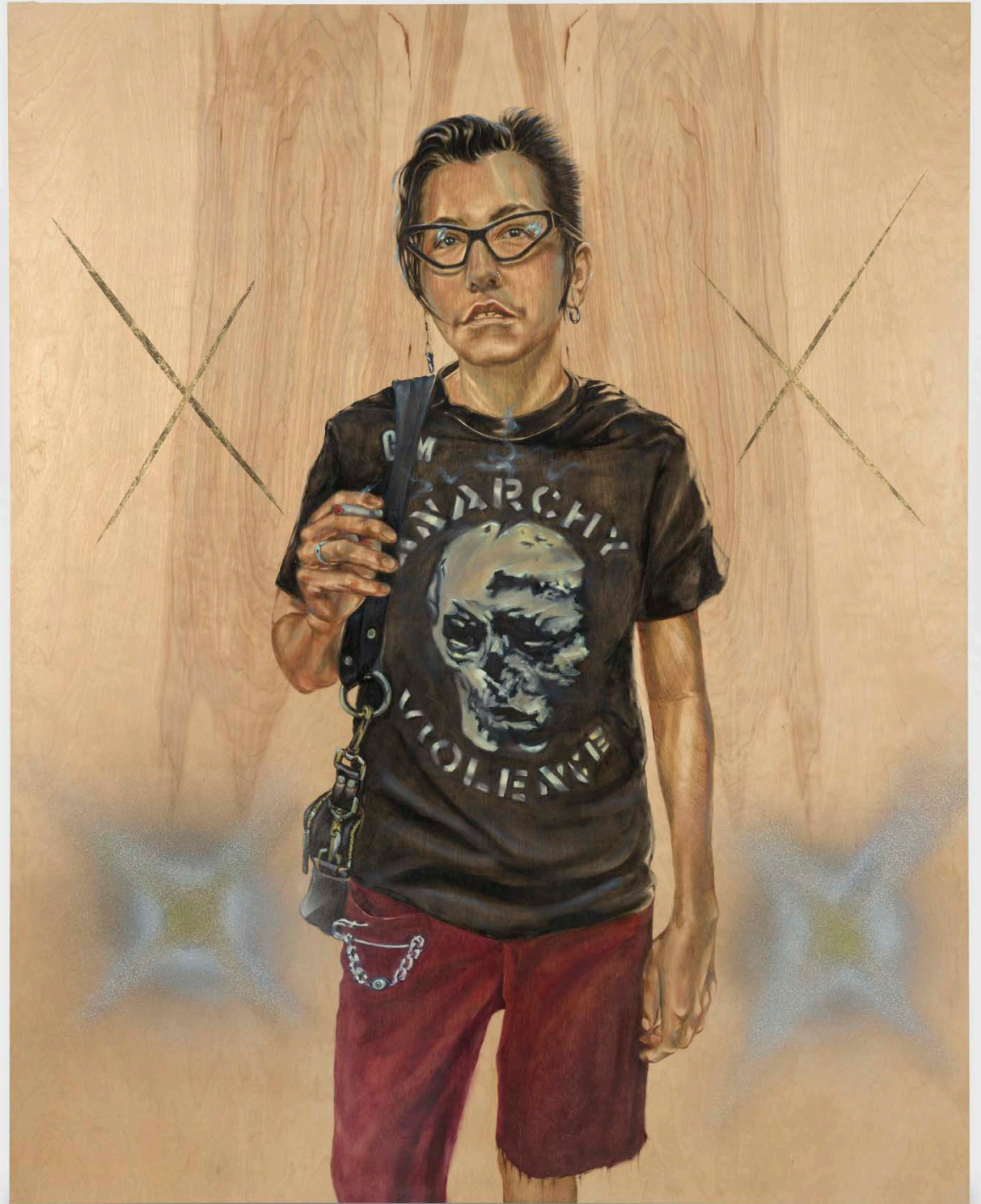
Artist Note on the Subject:

Angel Martinez has a masters in Global Medicine from USC and is an activist/organizer and health advocate for queer and underrepresented communities. We met up with mutual friends for a rooftop brunch one day in downtown L.A. and I took a photo of them.

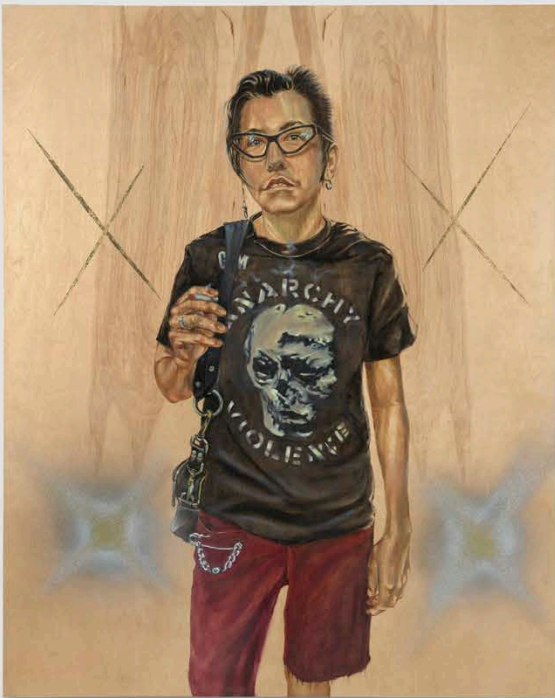


SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR

Shizu Saldamando
Prisca in GISM Shirt
Oil paint, metal leaf, glitter on
wood panel
60 x 48 inches
2023



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR

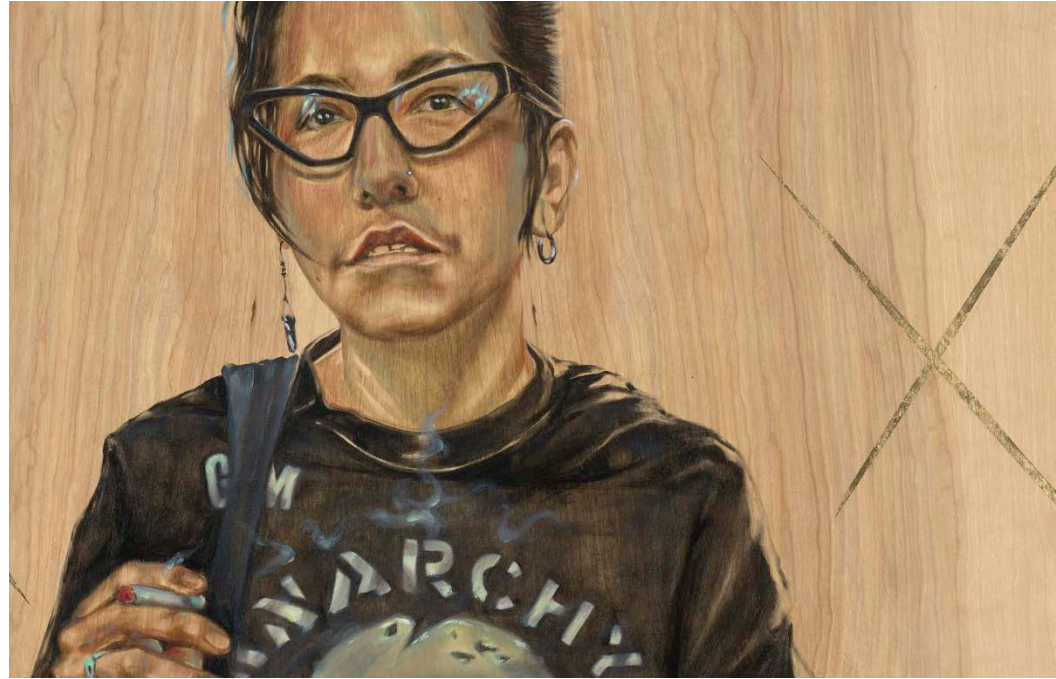


SHIZU SALDAMANDO

EXISTIR

Artist Note on the Subject:

Prisca Alejandro Rios is a creative, friend and fellow music aficionado who went to one of my random d.j. nights in Silverlake. I took a photo of them outside the venue and they happened to be wearing a t-shirt of the group G.I.S.M., an avant garde Anarchist hardcore punk band from Japan. Prisca also manages one of the best places to get breakfast in Alhambra, Yang's Kitchen.



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR

Shizu Saldamando
Portrait of Artist Yreina D. Cervantez
Oil paint, washi paper, vintage glass
glitter, on wood panel
72 x 48 inches
2023



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR

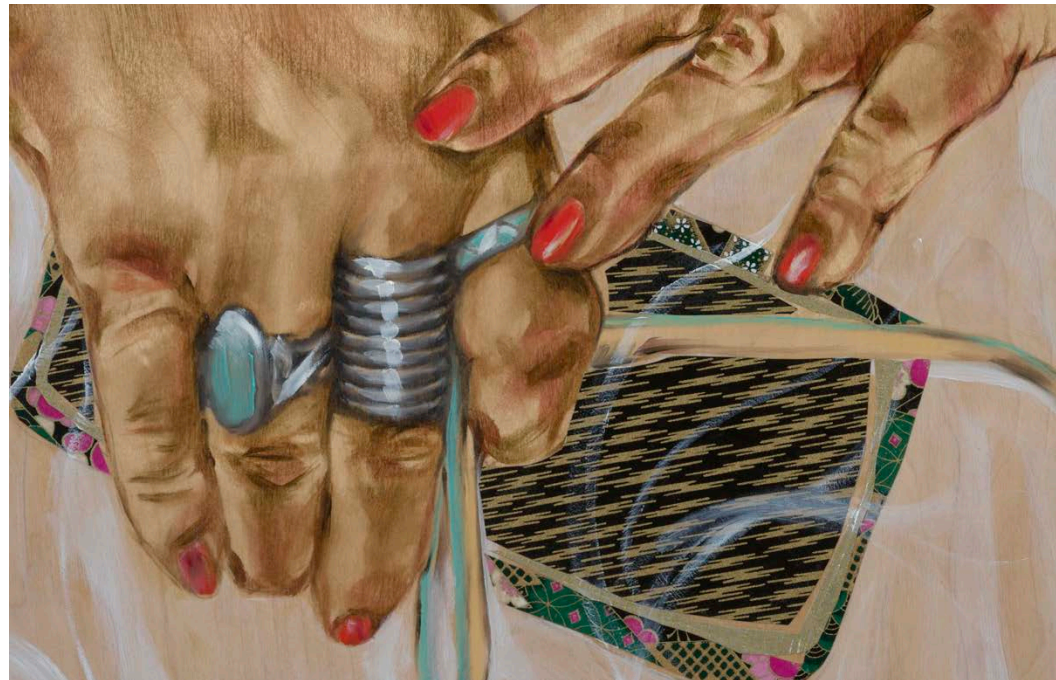


SHIZU SALDAMANDO

EXISTIR

Artist Note on the Subject:

Dr. Yreina D. Cervantez is an activist/artist/muralist/ retired professor of Chicano studies at CalState Northridge. I met Yreina while working at Self-Help Graphics and Art back when it was located in East LA. Yreina has influenced a whole generation of Chicana artists with her practice and is an icon and fixture of the Chicano Art community.



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR

Shizu Saldamando
Portrait of Artist
Young Joon Kwak
oil paint, glitter,
washi paper,
plastic decals
36 x 48 inches
2023



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR



SHIZU SALDAMANDO

EXISTIR

Artist Note on the Subject:

Young Joon Kwak is a multidisciplinary artist and musician. She uses sparkly decals to accentuate bodily sculptures made from life casts of her artist's community. We were attending Commonwealth and Council's Christmas party and she let me take their photo for portrait after we both gushed over our mutual appreciation of each other's work.



SHIZU SALDAMANDO

EXISTIR

Shizu Saldamando
*Portrait of Artist
Cayla Willie*
Oil, metal leaf,
glitter, vintage
glass glitter, washi
paper, on wood
panel
36 x 48 inches
2023



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR

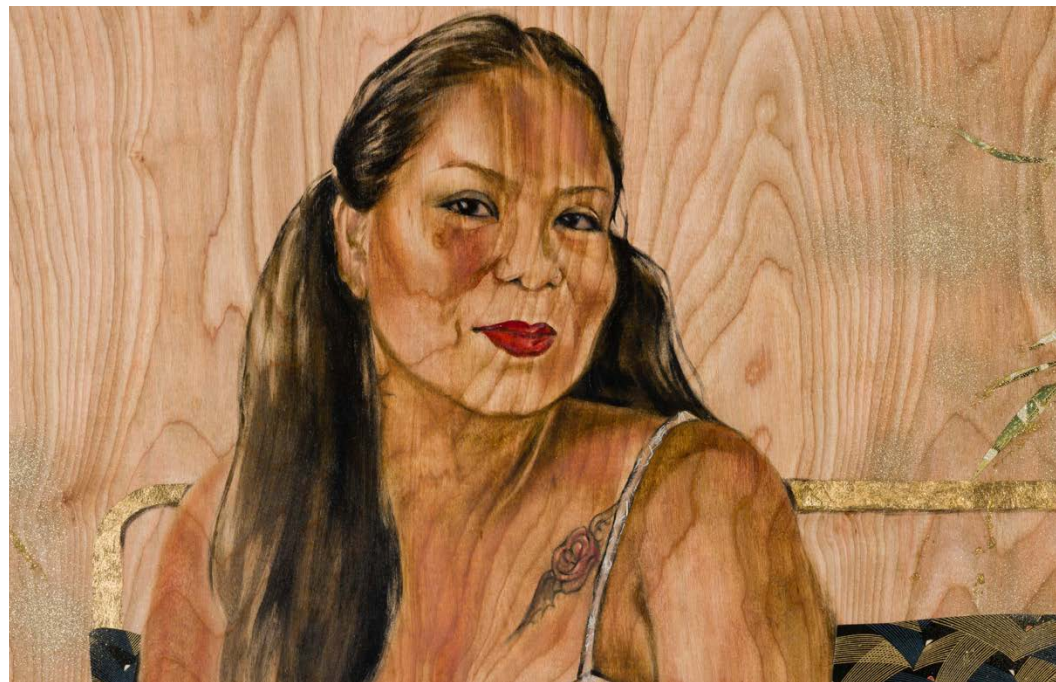


SHIZU SALDAMANDO

EXISTIR

Artist Note on the Subject:

Cayla Willie is an artist/photographer. She is a member of the Miccosukee Tribe of Florida. I met Cayla on a Tigertail airboat tour of the Everglades organized by Florida artist collective, Love the Everglades Movement (consisting of artists/activists Rev. Houston R. Cypress and Jean Sarmiento). I was an artist in residence at Fountainhead Arts' BIPOC mom's artist residency and connecting with Cayla and other local artists from the area was a highlight of the time spent in Miami. This is a portrait of Cayla during open studios there. Cayla is also an artist mother like myself.



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR

Shizu Saldamando
La Mercy in Palm Springs
Oil paint, metal leaf, spray paint,
decals on wood panel
60 x 48 inches
2022

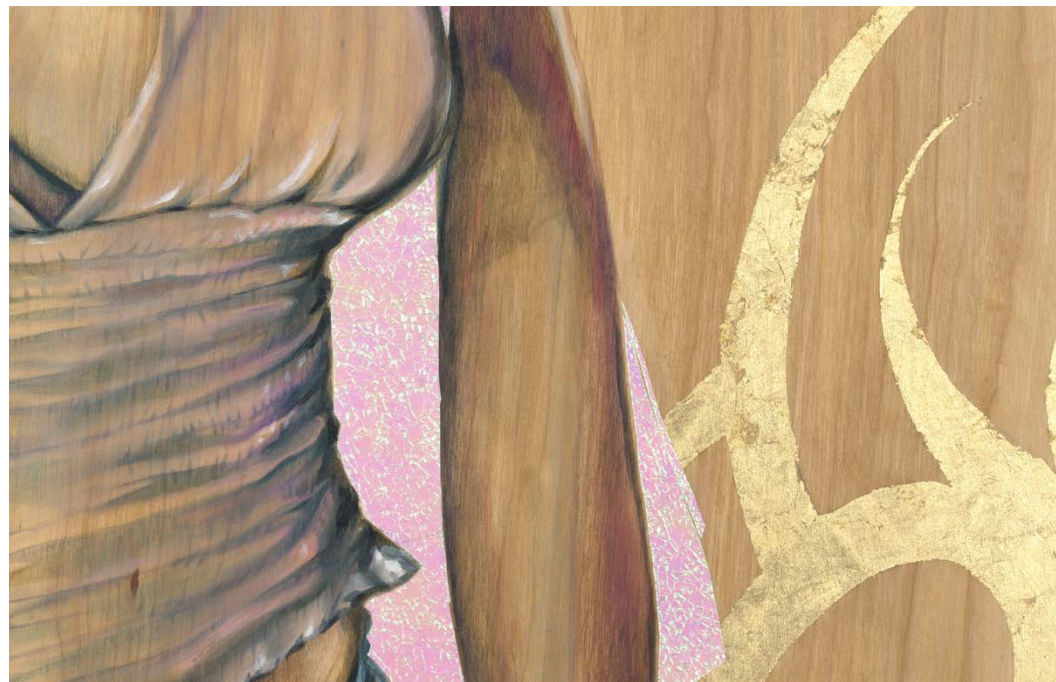


SHIZU SALDAMANDO

EXISTIR

Artist Note on the Subject:

Mercy Rivera @silkylolita is a model and creative working in the L.A. area. I took this reference photo at a group exhibition organized by her bestie Gabriela Ruiz, at the Palm Springs Art Museum this past August. Mercy is a style tastemaker and fashion chameleon, constructing different looks for the events she attends.



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR

Shizu Saldamando

Untitled 1

Washi paper, floral wire,
ribbon, found garden trellis
11 x 11 inches
2023



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR

Shizu Saldamando

Untitled 2

Washi paper, floral wire,
ribbon, found garden trellis
11 x 11 inches
2023



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR

Shizu Saldamando
Collaboration with
Maria Maea Garcia
Untitled 3

Washi paper, palm leaves, wire
34 x 20 inches
2022



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR

Shizu Saldamando
En Memoria #3
Washi paper flowers,
imitation gold chain, and
chain link fence remnant
24 x 16 x 5 inches
2023



SHIZU SALDAMANDO
EXISTIR

Shizu Saldamando
En Memoria #4
Washi paper flowers, found
mirror and plant cage
Approx. 15 x 12 x 12 inches
2023



SHIZU SALDAMANDO

CV

SHIZU SALDAMANDO

1978 born, San Francisco, CA

EDUCATION

2005 M.F.A., California Institute of the Arts

2000 B.A., University of California, Los Angeles

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Momento, Pasadena City College Boone Gallery, Pasadena, CA
- 2022 Cuidar, Harvard Westlake, Los Angeles, CA
Respira, Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2021 When This is All Over/Cuando Esto Termine, University of Michigan
Institute for the Humanities Gallery, Ann Arbor, MI
Reframing Comunidad: The Art of Ester Hernandez and
Shizu Saldamando, National Museum of Mexican Art, Chicago, IL
- 2020 LA Intersections, Oxy Arts Center, Los Angeles, CA
- 2019 Shizu Saldamando, Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art,
Scottsdale, AZ
Shizu Saldamando, Hotel Figueroa, Los Angeles, CA
- 2018 To Return, Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2014 Ouroboros, South of Sunset Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2013 When You Sleep: A Survey of Shizu Saldamando,
Vincent Price Art Museum, ELAC, Monterey Park, CA
- 2012 All Tomorrow's Parties, Moore College of Art and Design,
Philadelphia, PA
- 2010 There is a place, Steve Turner Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA
- 2009 Stay Gold, Space 47, San Jose, CA
- 2007 Shizu Saldamando, Pasadena City College, Walter
Shatford Library, Pasadena, CA
Shizu Saldamando, Tropico de Nopal Art Space, Los Angeles, CA
- 2005 Looking at Art, The Reception, MFA Thesis
Exhibition, Gallery D-30, California Institute of
the Arts, Valencia, CA
- 2004 Shizu Saldamando, Lime Gallery, mid-residency
exhibition, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Xican-a.o.x Body, Riverside Art Museum, Riverside, CA
Cheech Collects, The Cheech Museum, Riverside, CA
Ahorita!, Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
BLACK AND BLUE FANTASY, Curated by Alfonso Gonzalez, Jr.,
Dream Child, Los Angeles, CA
Manzanar: The Wartime Photographs of Ansel Adams, Fullerton
Museum Center, Fullerton, CA
- 2022 Out of Step, Out of Line, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach,
CA
Border Kindness, Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2021 Ni de Aquî, Ni de Allã, Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2020 LA: Views, MAKI Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
Phantom Limb, Epoch Gallery, Online Exhibition
- 2019 Presence, Fullerton College Art Gallery, Fullerton, CA
LA Fonts, Organized by Rafa Esparza and Alfonso
Gonzalez, Los Angeles, CA
In This Together, Castelli Art Space, Los Angeles, CA
- 2017 Dis...Miss, Cypress College Art Gallery, CA
Woman's Place, William Grant Still Arts Center, LA, CA
Official Getty PST LA/LA Exhibitions
Transpacific Borderlands, Japanese American
National Museum, LA, CA
Emigdio Vasquez and El Proletariado de Aztlan,
Chapman University Guggenheim Gallery, Orange, CA
Legacy of Dia De Los Muertos, Self-Help Graphics and Art, LA, CA
Dark Progressivism, Lancaster Museum of Art and History, CA
Getto Gloss, Chicana Avant Garde, BermudezProjects, Los Angeles,
CA
Day of the Dead: Tilica y Flaca es la Calaca,
Mexican Fine Arts Musuem, Chicago, IL
TANKAH, Oxnard College McNish Gallery, CA
Ae' Kai Smithsonian Apac, AlaMoana Center, HI, HI,
Los 4 Meets Los 40, Gregorio Escalante Gallery, S.D. CA
Ni Santas, Southwestern College, Chula Vista, CA
- 2016 Observations, Long Beach City College Art Gallery, CA
LA/SA, Gravelmouth Gallery, San Antonio Texas
Crosslines, Smithsonian Arts and Industries Building, Washington D.C.
Southland, Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

SHIZU SALDAMANDO

CV

- Taste Makers and Earth Shakers, Vincent Price Museum, Los Angeles, CA
ArtBo, Bogota, Colombia
Danger Came Smiling, Feminist Art and Popular Music, Franklin Street Works, Stamford CT
- 2015 We Must Risk Delight, Magazzino del Sale No.3, (official collateral exhibition of the Venice Biennale Venice Italy)
House on Mango Street, National Museum of Mexican Art, Chicago, IL
Second Wave, UCR Arts Block, Riverside, CA
Art and the Measure of Liberty, The United Nations
Turns 70, Korean Mission to the UN, NYC
The Thrill Of Victory The Agony of Defeat, New Image Art, Los Angeles, CA
Giant Robot Biennial, Japanese American National Museum, Los Angeles, CA
- 2014 Super Awesome, Oakland Museum of Art, Oakland, CA
Chicano Dream, Musée d'Aquitaine, Bourdeaux, France
- 2013 Department of Cultural Affairs, Los Angeles
International Airport, terminal 7 & 8, Departures Hallway
Artifex, Koplin del Rio Gallery, Culver City, CA
- 2012 The Full Dollar Collection of Contemporary Art, Outpost for Contemporary Art, Pasadena, CA
Crossing Boundaries in Art, University of Kyoto, Kyoto, Japan
De-constructing Chinatown, Chinese American Museum, Los Angeles, CA
Sueños Libres: West Coast Soñazos, Self-Help Graphics & Art, Los Angeles, CA
- 2011 Nothing Beside Remains, LA Nomadic Visions, Marfa, Texas
Portraiture Now: Asian American Portraits of Encounter, National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
(Travelled to Asia Society Texas Center, Houston, TX;
Japanese American National Museum, Los Angeles, CA)
Sonido Pirata, Sonoma Valley Museum of Art, Sonoma, CA
Adelante, Forest Lawn Museum, Glendale, CA
Nanchayette, Gallery Lara, Tokyo, Japan
Summer Soulstice, JAUS Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
Case Study L.A., Post Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2010 Chica Chic, California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco, CA
Psychic Outlaws, Luckman Gallery, California State University, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
Audience as Subject, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, CA
Seeing is Becoming, Indianapolis Museum of Contemporary Art, Indianapolis, IN
- 2009 Monte Vista Projects, Torrance Art Museum, Torrance, CA
18 with a Bullet, CAM Contemporaneo, Guadalajara, Mexico
MixTape, Federal Art Project, Los Angeles, CA
Backyard, Sam Lee Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Crossings, Japanese American National Museum, Los Angeles, CA
Year of the Ox Show, Giant Robot, Los Angeles, CA
Dibujo, Tropico de Nopal Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2008 Drawing the Line, Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, San Diego, CA
The Whole World Is Watching, Glendale College Art Gallery, Glendale, CA
East of Eden, Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
The Art of Style, Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana, San Jose, CA
Arte Contemporaneo, Puerto Vallarta, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico
Vexing: Female Voices from East L.A. Punk, Claremont Museum of Art, Claremont, CA
Lowrider Arte, Petersen Automotive Museum, Los Angeles, CA
Con Safos, National Museum of Mexican Art, Chicago, IL
Phantom Sightings: Art After the Chicano Movement, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA
(Travelled to Museo Tamayo, Mexico City, Mexico; Alamenda Museum, San Antonio, TX; Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, AZ; Museo Zapopan, Guadalajara, Mexico; Museo Del Barrio, New York, NY)
- 2007 The Pyramid Show, Monte Vista Projects, Highland Park, CA
Aqui No Hay Virgenes, L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center, Los Angeles, CA
Exquisite Acts and Everyday Rebellions, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA
Unprimed, Cerritos College Art Gallery, Norwalk, CA

SHIZU SALDAMANDO

CV

- 2006 The News Stand Show, Los Angeles, CA
Color Exchange 2, Setagaya Museum, Tokyo, Japan
Leaving Aztlán, Wignall Museum, Chaffey College, Rancho Cucamonga, CA
Tigers and Jaguars, The Craft and Folk Art Museum, Los Angeles, CA
Folding Screens, Hollyhock House Gallery at Barnsdall Art Park, Los Angeles, CA
Color Exchange, SOMArts Space, San Francisco, CA
- 2005 Shipping and Receiving, Armory Northwest, Pasadena, CA
Supersonic, Los Angeles Design Center, Los Angeles, CA
Brown on Brown, Slanguage Studio, Wilmington, CA
- 2004 The Bumper Sticker Show, Ruben Ochoa's Mobile Class
C Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Hecho en Califas, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, CA
Visions of a Post-Modern Aztlán, Taller Puertorriqueño, Philadelphia, PA
13 y 13: Emerging Chicana/o Artists of Los Angeles, Self-Help Graphics & Art, Los Angeles, CA
- 2003 Redo China, Ethan Cohen Fine Arts, New York, NY
Mexicanidad, National Museum of Mexican Art, Chicago, IL
Che y Que, Self-Help Graphics & Art, Los Angeles, CA
- 2002 Substance of Choice, Galeria de la Raza, San Francisco, CA
The Game, Korean Cultural Center, Los Angeles, CA
A Legacy of Printmakers, Pico Rivera Center for the Arts, Pico Rivera, CA
- 2001 Air Raids, L.A. Freewaves Festival 7th celebration of Experimental Media Arts held at Side Street Live, Armory Center for the Arts, Pasadena, CA; California Museum of Photography, Riverside, CA; California State University, Northridge Art Galleries, Northridge, CA
- 2000 LATITUDES: A collaborative installation, Self-Help Graphics & Art, Los Angeles, CA
Back to the Future, California State University, Dominguez Hills University Art Gallery, Carson, CA
Soup, Senior Exhibition, Wight Art Gallery, University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

FELLOWSHIPS & COMMISSIONS

- 2020 COLA 2020 Individual Artist Fellowship
- 2013 Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Artist Commission, Expo Line, Palms Station
- 2013 California Community Foundation Fellowship for Mid-Career Visual Artists
- 2013 ARC Grant, Center for Cultural Innovation
- 2006 California Community Foundation Fellowship for Emerging Visual Artists

RESIDENCIES

- Artist In Residence, Pasadena City College, Spring 2023
Time for You: BIPOC Mothers, Fountainhead Arts, Miami FL, 2022
Can Serrat, International Arts Residence, Bruc, Spain, 2011
Art Omi International Artist Colony, County Route 22, New York, 2002

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Carolina Miranda, Painter Shizu Saldamando puts a face to L.A.'s Latinx art and punk scenes, Los Angeles Times
- Annie Buckley, ARTFORUM Critic's Pick, artforum.com, 11.11.2013.
- Sharon Mizota, "Review: 'Artifex' at Koplín Del Río Gallery," Los Angeles Times, 6.13.2013.
- Carren Jao, "Counter Cliché: The Asian and Latino Bi-Cultural Experience," Artbound, www.kcet.org, 5.28.2013.
- Max Benavidez, "Three Questions for Shizu Saldamando," The American Show, <http://theamericanshow.com>, 5.2011.
- Fred Camino, "Shizu Saldamando: Metro Artist Interview," The Source Transportation News & Views, www.thesource.metro.net, 12.3.2009.
- Liz Ohanesian, "Artist Shizu Saldamando Brings LA Style to Texas' Girl in a Coma," <http://blogs.laweekly.com>, 6.3.2009.
- Roven Revue Critique Sur Le Dessin Contemporain, November, No.1, 2009, p. 24.
- Younger than Jesus Artist Directory, New Museum, Phaidon Press, 2009, p. 427.
- Phantom Sightings: Art After the Chicano Art Movement, Rita González, Howard N. Fox, Chon A. Noriega (eds.), Los Angeles County Museum of Art, University of California Press, 2008.

SHIZU SALDAMANDO

CV

Interview with Shizu Saldamando, *Lowrider Japan*, 12.2008, no. 89, p.52-3.
Phantom Sightings, *Connect*, LACMA Magazine, March/April 2008, p. 2.
Martin Wong, "Loca Motion: Eastside Art," *Giant Robot Magazine*, 2007, no. 50, p. 70-4.
Elina Shatkin, "Chicano portraiture meets Siouxsie Sioux," *Los Angeles Times*, 8.2.2007, p. E 12.
Diana McClure, *Projects in the Making*, *Art Asia Pacific*, Summer 2004 no. 41, p. 96.
David Buck, "Soy y Que at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts," *reviews Artweek*, 2.2005, no. 36, p.16.
Caribbean Fregoso "What is Latino Art?," *LA Weekly*, Sept. 12, 2017 Cover Image
Grace Bonney, "In the Company of Women," 2016 p.106

INSTITUTIONAL COLLECTIONS

The Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art & Culture of the Riverside Art Museum, Riverside, CA
Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington DC
Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA
Princeton University Art Museum, Princeton, NJ
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA
Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, AR
Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA
Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, Scottsdale, AZ
Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA
National Museum of Mexican Art, Chicago, IL
White Memorial Hospital, Los Angeles, CA
Fidelity Collection, Boston, MA
Cleveland Clinic Collection, Cleveland, OH
AltaMed Art Collection, Los Angeles CA