



Ranu Mukherjee, *Passage*, 2020 Pigment, cristalina, UV inkjet and silk and cotton sari fabric on linen. 72" x 96." Courtesy of the artist and Gallery Wendi Norris.

## **P L A C E: *Reckonings by Asian American Artists***

Opening Saturday, March 23

The ICA San José and Montalvo Arts Center jointly present an exhibition entitled *P L A C E: Reckonings by Asian American Artists*, to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of Montalvo's Sally and Don Lucas Artists Residency Program. This extraordinary showcase of eleven California-based artists and two artists collectives opens on March 23, 2024, at the ICA San José, and runs through August 11, 2024.

Featured Artists/Collectives:

Wanxin Zhang  
Stephanie Syjuco  
Ranu Mukherjee  
Christy Chan  
Christine Wong Yap  
Related Tactics  
Phung Huynh  
Mail Order Brides  
Adrienne Pao and her collaborator Robin Lasser  
Namita Paul  
Bruce Yonemoto  
Valerie Soe

P L A C E: *Reckonings by Asian American Artists* takes its title from poet and writer Cathy Park Hong's recent New York Times bestselling book *Minor Feelings: An Asian American Reckoning* (2020). Selected for their powerful

voices, all of the participating artists have been artists-in-residence at the LAP. The exhibition uplifts the diverse voices of leading contemporary artists of East Asian, Southeast Asian, South Asian, and Pacific Islander ancestries. Each artist considers their complex relationship and their own agency in association with the spaces that they have inhabited, embedded with histories of exclusion or violence, and how this affects, challenges, transforms, or inspires their artistic practice.

The exhibition, co-curated by Judy Koong Dennis (Montalvo Arts Center) and Zoë Latzer (ICA San José), is equally about visibility and the long history of racism in America, at a time when immigration policy is at the center of American politics. Over a century earlier, Villa Montalvo was the former home of California Senator James Duval Phelan (1861-1930), who gained national prominence and a seat in the U.S. Senate thanks in large part to his racist politics aimed at preventing Chinese, Japanese, and Korean immigration.

"The title 'P L A C E' is a nod to Montalvo, where the artists in this group show have all been a part of the Lucas Artists Program," says Judy Koong Dennis, co-curator of the exhibition. "As we celebrate our 20th anniversary of supporting creatives of all disciplines by providing time and space to rest, create, and collaborate in eleven beautiful live-work studios, it is important to also acknowledge that the residency is located on a property with a loaded history of racism specifically directed against Asian immigrants. The spaces between the letters of 'P L A C E' deliberately reference the persistence of this and other places where Asian American artists have had to contend with white supremacy."

Join us **March 23, 6-8pm** for the opening. Become a member today to also join us for the special member's preview at 5pm.