

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



KIM ABELES *Smog Collectors, 1987-2020*

Exhibition Dates: March 21 – May 30, 2020
Members Reception: Saturday, March 21, 1-2 PM
Public Reception: Saturday, March 21, 2-4 PM

Fullerton, CA – *Kim Abeles: Smog Collectors, 1987-2020*, at the Begovich Gallery will be the first time this seminal series is shown in its entirety. The exhibition features thirty years of Abeles' artistic investigation related to the environment and her innovative method of producing images on various surfaces made solely by particulate matter from air pollution. *Smog Collectors* examines decades of scientific data collected by the artist and its unexpected visual presentation that prompts the viewer to reconsider the air we breathe.

Abeles' art explores the harmful effects of smog and has received national and international acclaim, most notably in the series entitled, the *Presidential Commemorative Smog Plates* (1992). This body of work draws attention to US Presidents, from William McKinley to George Bush, and their varying policies associated with the environment. Abeles continues to explore the effects of smog utilizing narratives related to domestic spaces, the earth, and the human body.

About the artist

Kim Abeles is an interdisciplinary artist known for her community-based projects that explore biography, geography and environment. She is a recipient of fellowships and awards from the Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship, the J. Paul Getty Trust Fund for the Visual Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the California Community Foundation, the Pollack-Krasner Foundation, and the Los Angeles County Arts Commission. She has created projects with the California Science Center, Camp Ground: Arts, Corrections and Fire Management in the Santa Monica Mountains, air pollution control agencies, health clinics and mental health departments, and natural history museums in California, Colorado and Florida. She is professor emerita at California State University, Northridge where she taught public art and public practice from 1998-2009. She received her MFA at University of California, Irvine. She lives and works in Los Angeles.

Essay accompanying the exhibition written by Karen Moss, Director of USC Roski, MA Curatorial Program, Professor of Teaching, Critical Studies.

Artist's website: kimabeles.com

Kim Abeles: Smog Collectors, 1987-2020 is organized by the College of the Arts, Nicholas & Lee Begovich Gallery, and is curated by Jennifer Frias, Director/Curator. Support for the gallery is made possible through the Art Alliance, Associated Students, Inc. Instructional Related Activities, the College of the Arts, and the Department of Visual Arts. Special thanks to Madeleine Grynshztein & Tom Shapiro, Alice Fung & Michael Blatt, Michael Levine, Catherine MacLean & David Yale, and Susan Zeidler & Leo Frishberg.

RELATED PROGRAMMING

Opening Reception

Saturday, March 21
Members Reception: 1-2 PM
Public Reception: 2-4 PM

ARTS WEEK 2020 – Begovich Gallery Visiting Artist Lecture: Kim Abeles

Wednesday, April 8, 1 PM
Location: VA-175

Artist Kim Abeles provides insight on her work and her art practice.

In Conversation Series: Kim Abeles (Members Event)

Saturday, April 18, 11 AM – 1 PM
Location: Begovich Gallery
Spaces limited. **Reservations highly recommended**
RSVP by April 10 to hguzman@fullerton.edu, and please include “RSVP: In Conversation” to your email’s subject line.

In Conversation is a live series connecting artists, scholars and community figures for lively discussions related to art, culture and society. Each series is accompanied with a light brunch fare.

ART POPS: Kim Abeles - Workshop

Saturday, April 18, 2-4 PM
Location: VA-107

Kim Abeles leads a workshop for participants to make their own smog plate.
(Please arrive at 2PM to participate in the workshop). Space is limited.

GUIDED TOURS AND CONVERSATIONS

Gain further insights by booking a guided tour conversation of *Kim Abeles: Smog Collectors, 1987-2020*. **Two-weeks advanced reservation required.** Maximum 30 individuals per group. For more information and to reserve a class visit to the gallery, contact jfrias@fullerton.edu

VISITOR INFORMATION AND PRESS INQUIRIES

The Begovich Gallery is located on the campus of California State University, Fullerton in the Visual Arts courtyard off North State College Blvd. and Arts Drive. **MAILING ADDRESS** CSUF / College of the Arts Begovich Gallery, 800 North State College Blvd. Fullerton, CA 92831. **GALLERY HOURS** Monday-Thursday 12-4 PM, Saturday 12-4 PM, and by appointment. Closed Friday, Sunday, all major holidays, and when academic instruction is not in session. **PARKING** is conveniently located in the parking structure on Nutwood and can be accessed through Arts Drive from North State College Blvd. Daily parking permits (\$10) are available from permit machines located in the parking structure. Permit machines accept most major credit cards. It does not accept cash. Parking is free on Fridays after 5 PM and on weekends. **WEBSITE** fullerton.edu/arts/begovichgallery **SOCIAL MEDIA** CSUF Begovich Gallery (FB), @begovichgallery (IG) **PRESS INQUIRIES** jfrias@fullerton.edu

(Image) Kim Abeles, *Smog Collectors (World Leaders)*, 2019. Porcelain plates, decal, smog. 10 inches each. Featuring World Leaders who presented speeches at Climate Summits from 2011 to 2018. Several of the plate etchings are made of smog collected from the World Leader’s respective country.