In the heart of Orange County, the UCI Institute and Museum for California Art will offer something never before seen in the state, a museum dedicated to the exhibition, preservation and study of California art. It will house the most extensive collection of premier California art in every genre, from canvases and sculpture to digital art and future emerging art forms.

Located at the entry gate to the campus, UCI IMCA will serve as an intellectual magnet for the entire university, sparking new ideas and enhancing dialogue among thousands of students, visiting scholars, faculty members and professional staff. In addition to providing the campus an opportunity to experience the rich bounty of California art, the museum’s value to the region will extend well beyond the university and will be a vital resource for art education. It will also attract and inform families and the public through lectures, tours and hands-on art experiences.

For the campus and surrounding community, UCI IMCA will have an immediate and profound impact that will reverberate to future generations. Working in tandem with the museum, the Institute and Conservation Center will serve as its study and research hub.

The ever-growing UCI IMCA Collection, beginning with The Irvine Museum Collection and the Buck Collection, offers a unique and exquisite California art experience. These collections span all genres of art created and produced in California, from early 19th century landscapes to California Impressionism, to the great works of the 20th and early 21st century.

Our goal is to be the global resource for California art, and comprehensive center for the great world art generated in California over the past two centuries and extending into the future.

As we build on and around the remarkable Irvine Museum and Buck collections, we invite you to join us in this endeavor to rethink what an art museum is and what it can be.

Great museums are not merely repositories of artwork; they are catalysts for community dialogue whose goal is to stimulate beyond the art world and deepen the experience of all those who engage with great art.

— Stephen Barker, Executive Director
The UCI Institute and Museum for California Art
The Historical Collections Council

The Historical Collections Council (HCC) is the most active and generous support group for historic California art. It was founded by Bob Ehrlich in 1985 at Petersen Galleries in Beverly Hills. At the time, I was Executive Director of Petersen Galleries and I gladly offered our gallery to host the organizational meeting.

The HCC’s first effort, and indeed the reason it was organized, was to support an exhibition at the Laguna Art Museum, curated by Janet Blake entitled Early Artists in Laguna Beach: The Impressionists. While the budget set by the museum allowed for an exhibition catalogue, it did not include funds to reproduce images in color. Janet, Bob and I met over lunch at La Scala Restaurant to discuss the problem. We contacted collectors of California Impressionist paintings and invited them to a meeting at Petersen Galleries. As a result, the Historical Collections Council was formed. The funds for Janet’s exhibition catalogue were quickly raised, principally through support from the lenders to the show, who agreed that the images in the catalogue had to be in color.

Over the ensuing thirty-three years, HCC has raised and donated over $350,000 in support of exhibitions and books on California Impressionism at a number of California museums, including Laguna Art Museum, Bowers Museum, Crocker Art Museum in Sacramento, Pasadena Museum of California Art, Oceanside Museum of Art, Grace Hudson Museum in Ukiah, Ventura Museum, Bakersfield Museum of Art, and the California Heritage Museum in Santa Monica, among others. HCC has also contributed to the production of two PBS video series on California Art. Recently, the HCC provided funds to restore paintings from the renowned Gardena High School Art Collection and has contributed to the publication of a magnificent book that will document this important collection.

Of course, the HCC has been generous to The Irvine Museum Collection. The Council has provided financial support for the publishing of several of our museum catalogues, and many of its members have loaned paintings to the museum for exhibitions. The HCC has also contributed grants that helped to cover the cost of school bus transportation for elementary school field trips. Without support from the HCC, many local schools could not afford to have their students visit our museum.

We are indeed grateful to the vision and generosity of the Historical Collections Council in their supporting role in documenting and exhibiting California Impressionist paintings as an important aspect of American art.

— Mr. Jean Stern
The Irvine Museum Collection
at the UCI Institute and Museum
for California Art
Over the years, one of our most popular exhibition themes regards the water cycle. Through the exhibition of exquisite artwork, painted by some of the finest early California Impressionists, we can acquaint our visiting elementary school children to the importance of the care and stewardship of our most precious resource, water.

To my great delight, most of the students have already been introduced to the concept of conservation through their school instruction. Our hope is to softly guide them to personal responsibility of their surroundings and to an awareness of simple habits that they can develop to lessen their “plastic impact”.

Our current exhibition, *Upon a Painted Ocean: An Ode to the California Coast*, is a tribute to the Pacific Ocean that features works by important historical artists as well as contemporary painters. Although the exhibit is not specifically aimed at ecology, the message is clear, that our golden coast is a magnificent refuge for, not only mankind, but for the life that lives beneath the surface.

Along with the display of paintings, we like to include quotes or poetry as part of our exhibitions:

> *The least movement is of importance to all nature. The entire ocean is affected by a pebble.*—Blaise Pascal

> *Even the upper end of the river believes in the ocean.*—William Stafford

> *In one drop of water are found all the secrets of all the oceans.*—Kahlil Gibran

And one received in a thank-you letter from a fourth grader:

> *I feel like I was in the painting. The one I like was the ocean one because I like how the ocean makes me feel relaxed. I don't really get to go to the ocean so I like to look at paintings of the beautiful ocean. I only went to the ocean about 3 times.*—Ruby

— Dora James, Curator of Education

The Irvine Museum Collection at The UCI Institute and Museum for California Art
Recent Gifts

In our continuing mission of collecting and exhibiting the best works of art produced in California, dating from the 1860s to today, The Irvine Museum Collection at The UCI Institute and Museum of California Art wishes to express our sincere appreciation to the following donors whose recent gifts of art have helped enrich our collections.

*from top*

Gregory Hull, “Laguna Color,” 2017, oil on canvas, 25 x 30 in. This evocative view of sunset from the hills above Bluebird Canyon in Laguna Beach, was donated by the artist.

Jennifer Diehl, “Purple Dusk,” oil on canvas, 30 x 40 in. This large and glowing view of Pacific Coast Highway, showing downtown Laguna Beach just after sunset, was gifted by Linda and Garrett Pack.

Dennis Doheny, “Dawn’s Transition,” 2018, oil on canvas, 30 x 36 in. A magnificent view of La Jolla Point looking east into a hazy sunrise, was gifted by a donor who wishes to remain anonymous.
These important works by contemporary objective artists represent the best works of their style and are a treasured addition to our collections. We are grateful to the artists for creating these remarkable paintings and to the generous patrons who have presented them to our museum.

We also want to express our gratitude to the Bethea Family, direct relatives of the artist Arthur Grover Rider (1886–1975) for their generous gift of three important watercolor paintings, executed by Rider over a series of trips to Taxco, Mexico, in the 1930s and 1940s. These three works are among the very finest watercolors in our collection.
We are grateful for the generosity and support of our Patrons.

For information on how you can become a part of preserving our history, contact The Irvine Museum Collection at the UCI Institute and Museum of California Art irvinemuseumcollection@uci.edu or 949/476-0294.

This list includes cash gifts given to The Irvine Museum Collection at the UCI Institute and Museum of California Art Patron Program between January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018

For errors or omissions please contact: Leslee Fitzgibbon, Visitor Services 949.476.0294

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Individual Program Support</th>
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<tr>
<td>**Director’s Circle</td>
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| Mrs. Julie Padach-Mathewson  
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above Jean Stern with artist,
Gayle Garner Roski
below, right Ehren Weidenkeller,
Wendy Gavin, Andrew Fiala,
and Mike Gavin
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