



## ... news flashes from the Ethnic Arts Council

November 2010

**EAC 2010 Grant Awardees** were announced at the Annual Dinner October 10<sup>th</sup> at the Fowler Museum. The EAC Board approved unanimously the grant proposals for two innovative and wide-reaching exhibitions that will travel, if combined, to seven different museum sites, including the Musee du Quai Branly in Paris. On an unusually balmy night on the rooftop terrace of the Fowler, lined with new plants from our late Barbara Goldenberg, Drs. Marla Bern (Fowler) and Virginia Fields (LACMA) received the announcement with surprise and great appreciation, for the grants would support the finest catalogues to be produced with the best scholars and experts in their respective areas represented.

The first grant award went to the Fowler Museum for *Central Nigeria Unmasked: Art of the Benue River Valley*, the first major international exhibition to present a comprehensive view of the remarkable arts produced by the many and diverse peoples living in the Benue River Valley in Nigeria. This exhibition features more than 150 extraordinary objects drawn from museum and private collections in the United States and Europe, and provides an unparalleled opportunity to discover the rarely-seen artistic genres of Central Nigeria. Twenty-five years in the making, this show represents the curatorial prowess of Dr. Marla Berns.



Ancestor Vessel • Jungur group



Royal Helmet Mask • Igala People

The second grant award went to LACMA for the 2011 exhibition *Children of the Plumed Serpent: Heroes and Ancestors of Ancient Mexico*. This exhibition will focus on the period before the rise of the Aztec Empire that saw, by the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the successful integration of indigenous and European social and cultural practices, which is reflected in the dynamic artistic production. EAC will provide the authors' fees for a scholarly catalogue that traces



the trajectory of the exhibition narrative with essays, sidebars, and object entries by experts in the various fields.



Dog effigy vessel



Quetzalcoatli's gold wind jewels

The **EAC Grants Program** has flourished for at least 20 years, demonstrating one of the unique strengths of the organization which distinguishes it from other ethnic arts groups. It represents one of the twin missions of EAC: to not only educate its members and the public at-large but to also provide grant support to museums, organizations, and individuals who advance the interests, appreciation, and knowledge of ethnic art for present and future generations. "It's a lot of blood, sweat, and some tears to make prudent use of our membership dollars, create successful fundraising events, and cultivate donors so we can make this an annual rather than a bi-annual grants program" declared Feelie Lee, the Vice Chair for Grants.



Three very happy warriors of the Grants Program  
Drs. Feelie Lee, Virginia Fields & Marla Berns



**The Annual Dinner/Silent Auction** was a roaring success, drawing a crowd of 100 and the largest revenues gain in the history of EAC fundraising. Nearly \$25,000 was raised through a combination of strategic dinner planning, a silent auction that drew competitive bidding, and the generosity of individual donors, especially Michael Hamson whose e-Bay auction earmarked for EAC was highly remunerative and longtime EAC member and former Chair, Will Hughes, who flew in from Hawaii to receive a special award for his loyalty and generosity. Because of his commitment, EAC has received an annual donation of \$5000 for the past three years, thus insuring that we can return to an annual grant-giving program.



Will Hughes, EAC Honoree

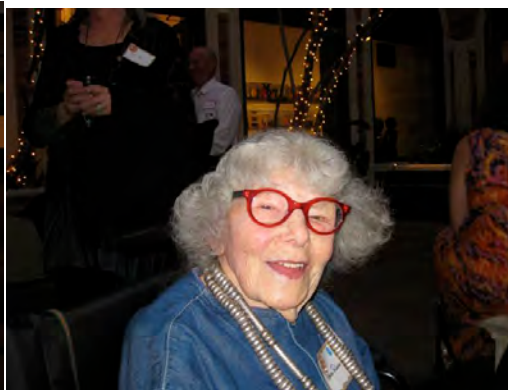


Martha & Av Bluming with Peggy Jacobson

As Chair Richard Baum noted in his opening remarks, it was a special pleasure to see so many of our **tribal elders** – founders, early members – joining new members at the dinner table and auction activities. They include our 100-year-old Dr. Harry Steinberg, former Chair Jay Last, Elaine Feldman, Ed & Cheri Silvers, Louis & Dena Mariantals, the legendary Helen Kuhn, Fern Wallace, and Steve Nelson.



Dr. Harry Steinberg



Elaine Feldman – Emeritus Board Member





Dena & Louis Marienthal, Helen Kuhn, and Robert Moore

## **Holiday Fundraiser • December 4, 2010 • 10 am – 4 pm**

**Berbere Imports • 3049 S. La Cienega Blvd. • Culver City, CA 90232**

An important **Reminder** to all EAC members and guests. If you want to do well by doing good, circle your calendar for our holiday fundraiser at Berbere Imports! Berbere has opened its 55,000 square foot warehouse to us at a designer discount (30%) with 10% of the total sales accruing to the EAC Grant Program. What can you find for yourself and others?

Hand - selected furnishings from the bazaars of the world available to the trade. A vast array of antiques and hand - crafted artisan items from over 15 countries, old world textiles, rugs, decorative accessories, stone pieces including sinks and sculpture, antique doors, architectural details and a truly exceptional collection of old world pottery as well as contemporary Moroccan dishes and platters. And there is plenty more!

Bring friends and relatives to take advantage of this special offer to EAC. If your friends go ahead of you, make sure they say the magic word, EAC, in order to get the discount! Questions? Email Peggy Jacobson at [jacobsonpeggy@gmail.com](mailto:jacobsonpeggy@gmail.com)

## **LA Tribal Asian & Tribal Arts Show • November 12 – 14, 2010 • Santa Monica Civic**

Don't forget that the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the most prestigious and prominent gathering of Asian and Tribal galleries in Southern California begins this weekend. For more information go to [www.caskeylees.com/LA\\_AsiaTribal/LA\\_AsiaTribal.html](http://www.caskeylees.com/LA_AsiaTribal/LA_AsiaTribal.html) This is a **Must-See** event for anyone interested in authentic items from the globe's most remote location. Preview reception on Friday night.



## Welcome New Members!!

Barbara Bowie      Dr. Stelle Feuer      Stan Kamin & Patricia Hackel  
 Paula Meichtry    Kathy Solomon      Bea & Tom Roberts    Mahamadou Sylla  
 Lynn Winter-Gross      Drs. Fred Yorra & Susan Young

## Endnotes

- **Congratulations!** Dr. Steven Karr was named the permanent Director of the Southwest Museum as of this printing. He will also retain the title of the Ahmanson Curator for the museum.
- **Congratulations! Again!** The new Autry President & CEO is **Daniel Finley** who assumed his position last month (October) after John Grey stepped down. For more information on this new leader, go to [www.latimes.com/entertainment/news/la-et-new-autry-president-20101004,0,7780540.story](http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/news/la-et-new-autry-president-20101004,0,7780540.story)



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**Contact: Feelie Lee, Guest Editor at [feelie@ucla.edu](mailto:feelie@ucla.edu)**

### The Ethnic Arts Council of Los Angeles (EAC)

• **Dedicated to Advancing the Knowledge, Interest, and Appreciation of Ethnic Art •**

**Become a member! Contact: Lyn Avins ([lavins@ucla.edu](mailto:lavins@ucla.edu)) or  
 Tamara Hoffman ([tamara.hoffman222@gmail.com](mailto:tamara.hoffman222@gmail.com))**

