

## Visions & Voices: Downtown L. A. Art Walk

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### Event

This brief guide is to complement the Downtown L. A. Art walk scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 2011. Students will depart campus at 5pm and return at 9pm. The walk is open to USC students only. Because space is limited, advance registration is required. To RSVP, visit [www.usc.edu/visionsandvoices](http://www.usc.edu/visionsandvoices).

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### Background



Much of the public art in Downtown Los Angeles dates from the 1980s, spearheaded by the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) and its percent-for-art program. The program requires that redevelopment projects set aside 1% for public art. The process of commissioning public art is overseen by the CRA and its advisory panels which comprise of professionals working in the Downtown area or people living there.

Older sculptures found in Downtown previous to the percent-for-art program, were often commissioned and placed by local associations, city departments, or were part of the decorative aspect of architecture. Downtown also has a large number of murals and street art.

The work featured on this page is Eric Orr's Prime Matter, 1991 (CRA percent-for-art funding), located on the northwest corner of Figueroa and Wilshire. According to the original design, during the day water is supposed to fall along the columns, and at night the column is programmed to occasionally erupt in flames.

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### Select books and guides

Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles. [Placemaking: public art in Los Angeles](#). Los Angeles [Calif.]: Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles, 1996. AFA Library N8845.L67C66 1996

Dunitz, Robin J. [Street gallery: guide to 1000 Los Angeles murals](#). Los Angeles, CA: RJD Enterprises, 1998. AFA Library N2638.L67D86 1988

Hayden, Dolores. [The power of place: urban landscapes as public history](#). Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1995. AFA, Doheny, and Leavey Libraries F869.L857H39 1955

Schrank, Sarah. [Art and the city: civic imagination and cultural authority in Los Angeles](#). Philadelphia : University of Pennsylvania Press, 2009. AFA Library N8845.L67S37 2009

Several, Michael. [Little Tokyo](#). [Los Angeles?] : [s.n.], 1994. Series: (Public art of Los Angeles ; pt.2) AFA Library N8845.L67S48 1994

Several, Michael. [The public art of Los Angeles: part 1, El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historic Monument and adjacent freeway murals](#). [Los Angeles?: s.n.], 1991. AFA Library N8845.L67S484 1991

[Urban surprises : a guide to public art in Los Angeles](#). edited by Gloria Gerace. Los Angeles: City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Dept. 2002. AFA Library N8845.U727 2002

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### Select USC Masters theses

Finley, Dawn Carolyn. [MOCA and the city: museums, public art, and Los Angeles](#). USC Masters Thesis: 2005. Grand Library Fi 2005 F513

Koros, Thomas Peter. [Public art in corporate downtown Los Angeles](#). USC Master's Thesis, 1995. Grand Library, FI '95 K84

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### Print and Online primary collections

Michael Several collection on Los Angeles Public Art, 1980-2000, 17 linear ft. (17 boxes) Doheny Special Collections Department  
Collection 0316. Finding aid, describing the contents of the collection, can be located at [http://www.usc.edu/libraries/finding\\_aids/records/finding\\_aid.php?fa=0316](http://www.usc.edu/libraries/finding_aids/records/finding_aid.php?fa=0316)

Save Outdoor Sculptures for Los Angeles, AFA Library, contents listed at URL: [http://libguides.usc.edu/downtown\\_artwalk](http://libguides.usc.edu/downtown_artwalk)<http://libguides.usc.edu/sos>

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Art and Culture Downtown Los Angeles:

<http://www.galleryrow.org/>

Art program at the Community Redevelopment Agency:

[http://www.crala.org/internet-site/Other/Art\\_Program/index.cfm](http://www.crala.org/internet-site/Other/Art_Program/index.cfm)

Public Art in Los Angeles:

<http://www.publicartinla.com>

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