

For immediate release

May 15, 2017

LAAA PRESENTS A SOLO ART EXHIBITION BY ARTIST GINA M.

Midway

October 21, 2017 – December 1, 2017

Artist Reception –Saturday: October 21, 6:00-9:00 pm

Artist/Curator Talk: To be arranged

Los Angeles, October 21, 2017 -Los Angeles Art Association (LAAA) is pleased to present the solo art exhibition, *MIDWAY*, by artist Gina M, from October 21 through December 1, 2017, at Gallery 825, 825 N. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90069. The artist reception is scheduled for Saturday, October 21, 6:00-9:00 pm. Gina M. combines hand built ceramics, found objects, painting, and photography to create trompe l'oeil "fool-the-eye" sculptures of faded plush toys and vintage carnival games. This event is free and open to the public.

Step right up and enter *Midway*, a dream-like carnival-themed merchandising landscape emphasizing the human connection between midway games of chance and the disposable plush victory prizes they offer. Passersby are drawn into the space by the large, blue-and-white lacey bearskin rug and a wall of plush toys in the background. A pedestal lifts a jack-in-the-box clown to eye level. A corduroy elephant slumps in the corner. Toddler-sized bears with bows hang from the walls and doors. A midway carnival game and a giraffe on skates complete the amusement atmosphere. Upon closer inspection, the toys are faded, worn, used and abused – eyes pleading, arms reaching out for comfort. Their titles reference their affliction: *My Bare Skin*, *Memory Mascot*, *Hanging Bare*, *It's Complicated*, *Remember Me*, and *La Surprise Finale*.

Gina M. states, "I was born in Minnesota and raised in California by a funky and creative family. My mother owned a puppet theater where weekends were spent developing shows, building puppets, and hosting other children's birthday parties. For a child nurtured by puppets and their puppeteers, my affinity to the anthropomorphic makes sense; I fashioned it to help cope, comfort, and accept the divorce and divide of my family."

Gina M.'s art exhibits in 2017 include:

Gallery 825, Solo Exhibit, *Midway*, Los Angeles, CA

El Camino College Art Gallery, *Mother and Child*, Torrance, CA

SMC: SOLA Gallery, *Fresh 2017*, Los Angeles, CA

OCCCA, Art As Protest, Santa Anna, CA

Gallery 825, *VS Exhibition*, Los Angeles, CA, LAAA with artist Kristine Augustyn

El Camino College Art Gallery, *Personal Matters*, Torrance, CA

SugarMynt Gallery, *Love Me/ Love Me Not*, South Pasadena, CA

The Loft, South Bay Contemporary, *Dear President*, San Pedro, CA

LA Art Show, *Ping-Pong*, Los Angeles Art Association, Los Angeles, CA,

Gina M. is a member of Los Angeles Art Association and Pasadena Society of Artists.

Her website is: <http://www.ArtistGinaM.com> and email at Gina@artistginam.com

Find her on [facebook.com/GinaMStudios](https://www.facebook.com/GinaMStudios) and at [instagram.com/artistginam](https://www.instagram.com/artistginam)

Gallery 825 is the exhibition arm of the Los Angeles Art Association. Purchased in 1958, the gallery, which is located in the heart of Los Angeles at 825 North La Cienega Boulevard, provides LAAA artists with a professional venue in which to show their work.

For more information contact Los Angeles Art Association at Gallery 825

825 N. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90069

Gallery Hours Tuesday-Saturday 10-5pm

Phone: 310.652.8272 Email: gallery825@laaa.org

www.laaa.org/gallery-825

#####

Press Contact: Gina M. Fernandez E: gina@artistginam.com

www.artistginam.com