

2024 EXHIBITIONS

TSSHERIN SHERPA: DIFFERENT WORLDS JANUARY 20–APRIL 28, 2024



Tsherin Sherpa, *Sky Walker (Dakini)*, 2021, gold leaf, acrylic and ink on canvas

This exhibition presents the captivating artworks of Tsherin Sherpa, a masterful contemporary California artist whose creations seamlessly merge traditional and modern aesthetics. Born in Kathmandu, Nepal, Sherpa emigrated to the San Francisco Bay Area in 1998. His work is grounded in his personal experiences within the Himalayan Diaspora and rigorous training as a thangka painter (traditional Tibetan Buddhist art). Upon relocating to the United States, Sherpa developed a distinct artistic practice blending his traditional training and culture with contemporary perspectives, bridging Eastern and Western aesthetics.

Featuring large-scale paintings, works on paper, and hand-woven Nepali rugs, vibrant colors, elements of gold leaf, and exquisite detail, Sherpa's works are at once serene and meditative as well as playful and provocative. With works in private collections and numerous museums around the globe, including representing Nepal at the Venice Biennale in 2022, Sherpa's art celebrates cultural diversity, artistic mastery, and the power of cross-cultural dialogue.

Exhibition organized by the Monterey Museum of Art

ARTHUR MONROE: A TOW TO CARRY MAY 11–SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

This retrospective of the late Oakland-based artist Arthur Monroe draws from a five-decade span from 1960 to 2011. Monroe's works reflect his travels within several of the major cultural movements of the mid-century—the New York School of Abstract Expressionism; the literary scene of New York's East Village; and the modern Jazz and Beat circle in New York and the Bay Area. In 1990 Monroe stated: "As a Black artist . . . I might have a tow to carry. I'm prepared to do that."

Monroe's colorful, spirited canvases are charged with the energy of the cultural crossroads that the artist was part of—his friendship with Charlie Parker, mentorship with the renowned artist Hans Hofmann, a studio facing that of Willem De Kooning's, and evenings at the infamous Cedar Tavern with other artists, including Franz Klein and Jackson Pollack. As art critic, Jan Avvgikos, wrote in *Artforum*, "We need this art and this history. Now."



Arthur Monroe, *Untitled*, 2004, oil on canvas

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THE ART OF JUANA ALICIA SEPTEMBER 21—JANUARY 5, 2025



Juana Alicia, *Sirena*, 2011, serigrafía, screen print monotype with mixed media

This retrospective of distinguished artist Juana Alicia features paintings, drawings, prints, books, and sculpture. While she is best known for her work as a muralist, this exhibition will present her art within the context of a truly multi-disciplinary artist. Reflecting Latin American literary movements such as magical and social realism, her work addresses issues of social justice, gender equity, environmental crisis, and the power of resistance and revolution.

Splitting her time between her homes in San Francisco, California, and in Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico, Alicia founded and directed the True Colors Mural Project, which supports the development of young artists through the creation of public murals. Her vibrant artworks embody diverse cultural and social perspectives and compels the viewer to consider other ways of looking and understanding.



Tsherin Sherpa, *Seeds of Compassion*, 2017, acrylic and ink on canvas



Juana Alicia, *Cool Plants, Hot Planet*, 2011, acrylic on canvas



Arthur Monroe, *Weird*, 2011, oil on canvas

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