

## HIGH BEAMS No. 3

# Laser Snake

A one-night drive-through exhibition featuring artists and galleries from the Bendix Building and beyond

**On view:**

Saturday,  
Saturday, April 17, 2021  
8-10 p.m.

414 E. 12th St.  
Los Angeles, CA

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[Highbeams.art](http://Highbeams.art)

**Pictured:**

Rob Brown,  
Ricardo Harris-Fuentes,  
and Jorge Mujica  
*CONSPIRITUALITY*  
2020  
Acrylic on canvas and  
wood with site-specific  
projections  
Variable dimensions



Not ones to let a little thing like a global pandemic get in the way of an art show, the curators of High Beams will kick off their third drive-through art exhibition on Saturday, April 17, in the parking lot and adjacent alleyway east of the Bendix Building.

Playfully titled *Laser Snake*, the COVID-safe exhibition will prove to be the most exuberant and mystical yet, with live performances from art clowns, wheat threshing, painters erasing musicians from view, and

at least three pyramids, each with a different meaning and aesthetic. The title was inspired by the first High Beams show, when a queue of 150 cars formed a “laser snake” as it meandered through a rooftop parking lot. You can watch the video [here](#).

**Press materials:**

[Download here](#)

“While we are supposedly seeing a light at the end of the tunnel of this pandemic, we are also hearing about infection rates exploding in some European countries,” said Carl Baratta, one of the High Beams founders and an artist/curator with TSALA. “We see this confusion and existential dread expressed artistically in *Laser Snake* by artists who are looking for some sort of deliverance — in many cases either by creating chaos or manifesting mysticism.”

The pyramidal works include Serena JV Elston’s upside-down wood sculpture, which represents the erasure of debt and male patriarchy; Max Presneill’s assemblage, *WEB*, a surrealist-inspired reflection on the dangers of life and the joy of making art, made from motorcycle exhaust pipes and plastic joints; and Sean Noyce’s candle-lit installation that conjures the artist’s ancestors through a mystical portal, situated down a dark alleyway.

Other mystical works include Chiho Harazaki’s *Buddha*, a drawing made from fluorescent gaffer tape on corrugated panel, which expresses the desire for gun control and condolences to those grieving for the victims of gun violence and racism; and

[Highbeams.art](http://Highbeams.art)

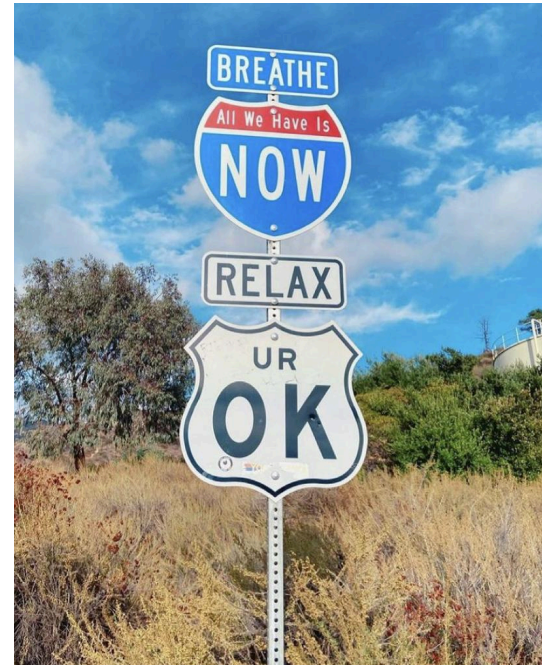


**Pictured:**

Scott Froschauer  
*Innerstate NOW and UROK*  
2020  
Sheet aluminum with  
adhesive plastic coating  
mounted on metal post  
24 x 30 inches (each)

*CONSPIRITUALITY*, a group installation with artists Rob Brown, Ricardo Harris-Fuentes and Jorge Mujica that explores themes of spirituality, conspiracy theories, magic and illusion.

Live performances include painting on a freestanding 4' x 8' clear plastic window that will be positioned in front of musicians Hagop Najarian and Steven Soto. During the two-hour show, artists Surge Witrön and Tom Dunn will respond to the music by painting the backside of the plastic window, obscuring the view of the musicians and the artists. Meanwhile, Hannah Hughes and Jamie Hamilton will be threshing barley grain by hand throughout the evening to separate the grain from the chaff, and offering individual pearls for bitcoin purchase.



The show will be studded by the work of Scott Froschauer, whose street signs turn our culture of alienation on its head by exposing and counteracting the compulsions used to avoid uncomfortable thoughts and feelings.

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**Participating artists:** Rob Brown, Carly Chubak, Chris Collins, Tom Dunn, Serena JV Elston, Scott Froschauer, Jamie Hamilton, Chiho Harazaki, Ricardo Harris-Fuentes, Marina Heintze, Hannah Hughes, Jorge Mujica, Hagop Najarian, Sean Noyce, Max Presneill, Kari Reardon, Kyle Patrick Roberts, Stephanie Sherwood, Steven Soto, Beverly Siu, and Surge Witrön.

**Curators/organizers:** Carl Baratta, Chelsea Boxwell, Chance Calloway, Dani Dodge, Coffee Kang, Alanna Marcelletti, Rebekah Neel, Sean Noyce, Jordynn Nusz, Louise O'Donnell, Katie Shanks, Katya Usvitsky, and HK Zamani.

**Participating collectives/artist-run spaces:** 515, Acceptable Risk LA (ARLA), Durden and Ray, Last Ditch, Level Ground, Museum Adjacent, Noysky Projects, O' Project Space, and Tiger Strikes Asteroid (TSALA)

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**About:** High Beams was formed in May 2020 as a collective of collectives. Each artist within the High Beams curatorial group is an artist/curator with one of Los Angeles' collectives, including Durden and Ray, Tiger Strikes Asteroid, Last Ditch, and 515, who have galleries located in the Bendix Building. Others, such as Museum Adjacent, Level Ground, and Acceptable Risk (ARLA), eschew the four-white-wall paradigm for a more nomadic curatorial existence. Each collective curated a space roughly equivalent of three spaces in the lot.

