



# Light Space

# Surface

Works from the  
Los Angeles County Museum of Art

Frit Art Museum

June 3–September 4, 2022



Through fifty works ranging from small sculptures to experiential environments, this visually alluring exhibition explores how the properties of light and space as well as highly polished surfaces (referred to in this context as a *finish fetish*) can themselves be mediums for art. In the 1960s and 1970s, various Southern California artists began to create works that investigate perceptual phenomena—how we come to understand form, volume, presence, and absence through light, seen directly or through other materials, reflected or refracted. As participating artist Gisela Colón (b. 1966) states, “Perception is the medium itself. Non-specific objects are

a means to an end, the end being the perceptual experience.” Many of these artists used newly developed industrial materials, including sheet acrylic, fiberglass, and polyester resin. In addition to being utilized in rapidly developing engineering fields, these materials were also found on surfboards and customized cars, items often associated with a unique Southern California culture.

Drawing on the Los Angeles County Museum of Art’s deep holdings, *Light, Space, Surface* reveals the vibrancy and diversity of this important chapter in American art history and challenges visitors to rethink what art can be.

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FRONT: Laddie John Dill. *Untitled Light Sentence* (detail), 1971. Argon, glass tubing welded in sections, transformer, and wires; glass tubing: 74 × 1/2 in. Los Angeles County Museum of Art, gift of Barry Lowen. © Laddie John Dill. Photo © Museum Associates/LACMA

BACK: Helen Pashgian. *Untitled*, 1968–69. Cast polyester resin and acrylic insert; height: 8 3/8 in., diameter: 8 5/8 in. Los Angeles County Museum of Art, purchased with funds provided by the Hillcrest Foundation and the Modern and Contemporary Art Council Acquisitions Endowment. © Helen Pashgian. Photo © Museum Associates/LACMA

**Frist Art  
Museum**

919 Broadway  
Nashville, TN 37203  
FristArtMuseum.org  
#TheFrist #LightSpaceSurface