San Diego MCASD auction offers big names, unusual opportunity



Detail from Isaac Julien, "Red Chamber Dream" (from "Ten Thousand Waves"), 2012, 2 Endura ultra photographs, 70.87 x 181.1 inches edition 4 of 6, Courtesy of the artist, Metro Pictures, New York and Victoria Miro Gallery, London. Written by

James Chute

9:12 a.m., May 24, 2012

Here's the list:

Ai Weiwei, David Adey, Peter Alexander, John Baldessari, Tim Bavington, Barry Bell, Larry Bell, Mike Berg, Tim Bessell, Ross Bleckner, Mel Bochner, Kelsey Brookes, Christo, Lael Corbin, Mary Corse, Mara de Luca, Roman de Salvo, Lewis deSoto, Spencer Finch, Charles Gaines, Steve Gibson, Thomas Glassford, Mike Glier, Joe Goode, Iva Gueorguieva, Stephen Hannock, James Hayward, Jim Hodges, Jay Johnson, Isaac Julien, John Oliver Lewis, Margie Livingston, Jean Lowe, Luce et Studio Architects, Shana Lutker, Kim MacConnel, Heather Gwen Martin, Jessica McCambly, Ryan McGinness, Richard Allen Morris, Enrico Natali, Helen Pashgian, Marcos Ramirez ERRE, David Reed, Philipp Scholz Rittermann, Ed Ruscha, Christopher Russell, Stefanie Schneider, Andrew Schoultz, Jennifer Steinkamp, Ryan Taber, John Valadez, Perry Vasquez, Feodor Voronov, Stephanie Washburn, Barbara Weldon, and Jack Whitten.

This assortment of art world luminaries, up-and-coming locals and intriguing others would make a fascinating group exhibition, but in fact, these are the artists who have pieces in the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego's biennial art auction on May 30 at the museum's La Jolla location.

Here's how it works: For \$200 (\$175 for members), you'll get admission, a cocktail reception, dessert reception, and the opportunity for a private curatorial tour and a "special edition paddle" designed by Ryan McGinness.

For \$100 (\$75 for museum members), you'll get admission and the cocktail and dessert receptions.

The silent auction begins at 6:30 p.m. and the live auction is at 8 p.m. Lydia Fenet, senior vice president and director of strategic partnerships for Christie's New York, will be the auctioneer. (Pop culture alert: Fenet appeared as the auctioneer on the season finale of NBC's "Celebrity Apprentice.")

As the works have been donated, and Christie's is the lead sponsor, the funds raised will support the museum's art acquisitions, exhibitions and education programs. The pieces are now on view at MCASD La Jolla, and a list of works is available on the museum's website, mcasd.org