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## Altered Space - Los Angeles

Posted on April 18th, 2012 by [Sabrina Park](#)

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Located on one of LA's hottest streets, **Altered Space Gallery** on Abbot Kinney Boulevard features custom made works such as fine art, jewelry, furniture, and ceramics, making it a must-see when visiting the trendy neighborhood. While we were unable to speak with gallery owner Sand Brim, we were able to sit down with gallery director Valerie Emanuel to talk about all things art. Emanuel, who primarily works with customers and artists, talked about the gallery's new **online store**, events, her experiences at Altered Space, and featured artists including Michele Mikesell, Todd Reed, Eric Silva, Sarah Graham, Victoria Cunningham, Dara Dubinet, Jill Platner, and Margaret Solow.



**BANGSTYLE:** In the 'About Us' section of your website, you explain that you select artists to feature in your gallery by their excellence in design, artistry, and craftsmanship. Can you elaborate? How do you decide which artists to feature?

**Valerie Emanuel:** This is actually a good question because last week I did my first buy. It's all done on jury—I don't make the decision, Sand doesn't make the decision, Eric Silva doesn't make the decision; we all have to agree that the artist is great. We have this artist, Eric Silva; he's at the Smithsonian, he's at the Getty, and his art and his jewelry are everywhere. So we really trust his opinion. He did the whole layout of the store and designed all the cases. He's pretty amazing, and he usually just sees people—he travels.

For instance, he'll go to Bali for a month or New York and go to the trade shows. Sometimes he'll shoot us an email telling us to check a certain artist out, and, if we all agree that that person's great, they'll come to the gallery, and we'll do a consignment or a buy. It depends. If we don't know how well the stuff will sell, we'll do consignment. If we know the work is a guarantee sell and people will love it, then we'll buy it.

**BANGSTYLE:** Which events/exhibitions have been your favorite and why?

**VE:** We had a Claudia Endler Trunk Show; that was my favorite. I'm wearing Claudia Endler rings right now; they're really cool. She has these stackable rings in all of her designs. I've just never seen anything like it, and I think she was the first artist that I ever met who had her stuff at the gallery. Getting to meet her and the fact that she explained to me why she made what she made and the philosophy behind each piece was really great.

Be sure to check out the **Altered Space Gallery online store** for fine art, jewelry, furniture, ceramics, gifts, books, cards, and more.



Photos of Michele Mikesell's "Hugo, Oklahoma" courtesy of the [Altered Space Gallery blog](#).

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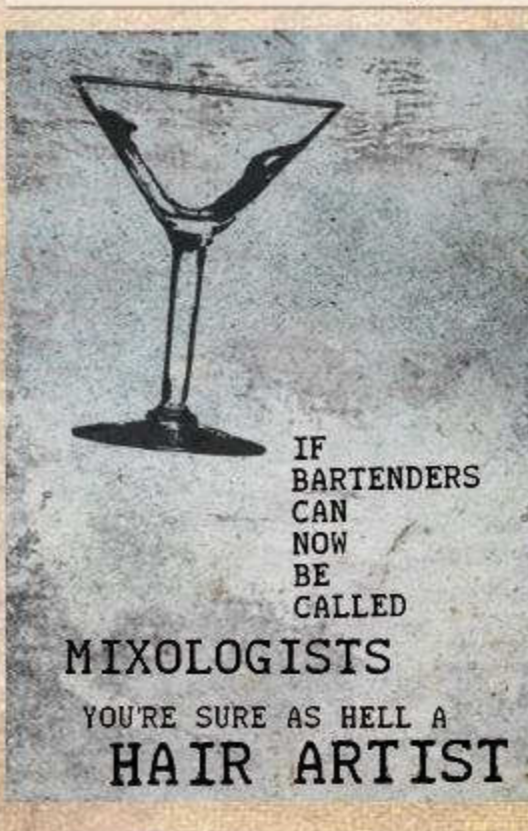
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[Sabrina Park](#) has written 149 articles on Bangstyle.com. [Google+ Profile here.](#)

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