



# OpenART | Artists open studios giving the public insight to their work

**Artist and musician Norma Tanega surveys the tall windows of her unique north Claremont studio on Saturday during the OpenART 2010 studio tour on Saturday. Ms. Tanega has lived in the mid century modern home off Mount Baldy road since the 1980s and says that the view of the mountains is constant inspiration for her.**

COURIER photos/Steven Felschundneff

There are hidden sanctuaries all over Claremont where creative minds turn their artistic visions into reality. Garages, back houses and lofts have been converted into workplaces where an active generation of Claremont artists produces their works of art.

On Saturday, dozens of people took part in the Claremont Museum of Art's artist studio tour, called OpenART, where art lovers got a behind-the-scenes look at the local art community.

"You can always see finished pieces on display but this gives us a chance to see artists in their workplaces, see how they create their art and see some of their works in progress," said Carlyne McDonnell, one of 61 people to take the tour. "So this is really a special opportunity."

A total of 33 artists opened their studios for the tour. The event ran from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., followed by a reception where tour participants and the artists could



**Norma Tanega's paintings line two walls of her north Claremont studio Saturday during the Claremont Museum of Art's OpenART 2010 tour.**

further connect. Artists reported having 15 to 20 visitors to their studios throughout the day, said Catherine McIntosh, CMA spokesperson. Many made a sale or 2.

Steve Comba, Assistant Director of the Pomona College Museum of Art, helped organize the tour and was a participating artist. His garage and a pool house in his backyard have been transformed into an art studio and gallery where his finished and unfinished paintings are on display.

"There was a common misunderstanding about the Claremont Museum of Art that the program did not focus at all on local artists," Mr. Comba explained. "But we had programming plans similar to this to showcase talent in the region. This tour is one way for the museum to endear itself to the local art community. And it also give the community a chance to meet many of Claremont's local artists who are active today and

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 Rachael V. Huang, violin  
 Tatiana Thibodeaux, piano  
 Scripps College Fine Arts Foundation  
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