

# Fallen Fruit

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## FALLEN FRUIT BIO

Fallen Fruit is an ongoing art collaboration that began with creating maps of the fruit trees growing on or over public property in Los Angeles and other American cities. Their participatory projects have expanded to include *Public Fruit Jams* in which they invite citizens to bring homegrown or public fruit and join in communal jam-making; *Nocturnal Fruit Forages*, nighttime neighborhood fruit tours; *Public Fruit Tree Adoptions* that invite the public to plant trees on the margins of private property. Fallen Fruit's visual images include an ongoing series of narrative photographs, installations and video works that explore the social and political implications of our relationship to fruit and world around us. The three artists of Fallen Fruit, David Burns, Matias Viegner and Austin Young, think of fruit as the lens by which they look at the world.

Fallen Fruit's year-long project in 2010 is *EATLACMA*, an exploration of food, art, culture and politics at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, organized into three parts: a curated set of artist's gardens, an exhibition drawn from the permanent collection, and *Let Them Eat LACMA*, a one-day final event bringing together over fifty artists to activate and re-imagine the entire museum. Recent projects include *United Fruit*, an installation of photographs and video on the political, social and pop history of the banana, created during a residency in Cali, Colombia. It is part of a long term series called *The Colonial History of Fruit*, which examines both the objective and the subjective or anecdotal history of fruit. *Double Standard* is a two channel video of a fruit tour with a text overlay of public comments on the same footage edited by PBS for YouTube. *Fresh 'n Easy* was their second solo show of images and also "everyday objects" such as knives, spoons, cutting boards, aprons and tote bags with inscribed text harvested from the same anonymous comments.

First published as an artist's project in *The Journal of Aesthetics and Protest* in 2004, Fallen Fruit has exhibited in venues such as LACMA (Los Angeles County Museum of Art), ARCO Madrid, Ars Electronica, The Canadian Centre for Architecture, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, Netherlands Architecture Institute, Hemispheric Institute, Machine Project, and LACE (Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions) as well as internationally in Denmark, Austria, Spain, Norway, and Colombia. Interviews, publication and other media include: *ArtReview*, *Art in America*, *Artillery*, *artUS*, *Art:21*, *Cabinet*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Vice*; NPR's "Day-To-Day", "Pacific Drift" and "Off-Ramp" radio programs; CBS, Discovery Channel, Current; TreeHugger, Daily Candy and Flavorpill LA. Recent Awards include: Art Matters Foundation, MetLife, Good Works Foundation, Yahoo!, YouTube, and rhizome.org.