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For Immediate Release

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WHAT: Beyond Baroque Hosts THE BIG PICTURE: A Convocation Of Southern California Poets
WHEN: Sunday, April 7th, 2002 at 3:00 p.m.
WHERE: BEYOND BAROQUE LITERARY ARTS CENTER
681 Venice Blvd., Venice, CA
(310) 822-3006
ADMISSION: Free of charge

On Sunday, April 7th, 2002, at 3:00 p.m., Beyond Baroque will host The Big Picture, a convocation of published Southern California poets to be photographed for National Poetry Month.

Southern California is a region of diverse populations, each with a unique voice. For this event, we are bringing all these voices together--the voices of our literary poets, our performance poets, our beat poets, avant-garde poets, academic poets, hip-hop poets, environmental poets, political poets, cowboy poets, and others. Often regions are not aware of their cultural heritage. This is our change to preserve these poets for posterity.

The event will take place at Beyond Baroque, the non-profit foundation that is the literary heart of Los Angeles. Founded in 1968 in a storefront in Venice, the center has been the site of readings from such literary giants and local icons as Allen Ginsberg, Philip Levine, David St. John, Kate Braverman, Lewis MacAdams, Bob Flanagan, Charles Bukowski, Wanda Coleman, Dennis Cooper, and many more. Many of SoCal's most beloved poets have been alumnae of Beyond Baroque's longstanding workshops.

The event is being documented by Mark Savage, who is completed a five-year project individually photographing the poets of Los Angeles. Called one of the "finest up-and-coming portrait photographers in North America" by American Photography, Savage's work has appeared in the Los Angeles Times, MONEY, Fortune, and other publications. After the group photo, all poets will be invited to visit his project, "Souls and Passions," on display at the Beyond Baroque gallery.

In addition, participating poets will be donating copies of their publications to the Beyond Baroque Archive, the largest independent collection of Southern California poetry and ephemera on the West Coast.

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