ENTERTAINMENT & ARTS

Essential Arts: LACMA gets the wrecking ball mid-pandemic

By **CAROLINA A. MIRANDA | STAFF WRITER**

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My bangs aren't going to hold out much longer and my husband is starting to look like Christopher Lloyd in "Back to the Future." Which means I'm greeting you from yet another week in quarantine. I'm **Carolina A. Miranda**, staff writer at the Los Angeles Times, with the week's essential arts news — and Colombian gender-bending acts:

Essential Image

A detail of an installation by artist Genevieve Gagnard titled "Be More" at the Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara. (Alex Blair / Genevieve Gagnard and Vielmetter Los Angeles)

Once again, let's kick things off with work by an artist whose exhibition was cut off by the pandemic. This week's **Genevieve Gagnard**, who had just opened a solo exhibition at the **Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara**, "Outside Looking In," when the lockdown went into effect.

The artist's installations frequently explore issues of identity and belonging and often employ the signifiers of girls' popular culture — black and white. (Gagnard is the daughter of a black father and white mother.) The installation above, titled **"Be More,"** imagines a young woman's bathroom cluttered with aspirational beauty products, many of which are toxic.

My colleague **Deborah Vankin** spoke with Gagnard on the occasion of her 2016 solo show at CAAM, and the artist discussed what motivates her installation work in a video she made for Crystal Bridges. Find more of her work at Vielmetter Los Angeles.

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