## CALIFORNIA DREAMING:

## Who's the Dreamer, What's the Dream?

## **FEB03**

## Monday, February 3 | 4-6PM

The co-curators of the *Golden West?: Jan Sawka's California Dream* exhibition, Hanna Maria Sawka and Frank Boyer, will talk about major events in the life and career of Jan Sawka and discuss the thematic threads woven together to create the fabric of Jan Sawka's California Dream.

The co-curators will illuminate how conditions in the Poland of Jan Sawka's youth led to Sawka's paradoxically skeptical and heartfelt vision of America. Hanna Maria Sawka will relate her memories of a Californian who was prominent in the Sawka family's life, Bob Schulberg, including his role in helping the family attain refuge in the United States. Jan Sawka's California Dream, as articulated in the exhibition, shifted and developed under the impact of the direct encounter with American reality. Bob Schulberg was an important part of that direct encounter, sharing Sawka's critical sense of the absurd. This talk will explore the complexities of the California Dream, as it appears in Jan Sawka's art, including the increasingly universal and problematic themes of the negative impact of over-commodification and market mentality, and the Ioneliness and isolation within a seeming "paradise."

Hanna Maria Sawka, MFA, is the daughter of the artist, who, in addition to curating for the Estate of Artist Jan Sawka, is also a successful filmmaker, director, educator and writer.

**Frank Boyer, D.A.,** who has researched Polish art and culture for 30 years, and worked closely with the artist during the last 11 years of his life.

**GENERAL ADMISSION** FREE. Suggested Donation: \$3 Parking permit is required and available for purchase at the museum front desk for \$6 MUSEUM HOURS Monday & Tuesday: 10AM – 5PM Wednesday & Thursday: 10AM – 6PM Saturday: 11AM – 3PM

