

Wagley, Catherine, "Artificial Complexion at Various Small Fires," *LA Weekly*, November 25, 2014, page 1 of 1.

LA WEEKLY

Event

LA Artificial Complexion

When: Tuesdays-Saturdays. Continues through Dec. 20

Price: free

www.vsf.la

B Various Small Fires

812 N. Highland Ave., Los Angeles **HOLLYWOOD**

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PHOTO BY MICHAEL UNDERWOOD

Liz Craft's Big Mouth (2013)

Artificial Complexion at Various Small Fires

Baroness Else von Freytag-Loringhoven, an often overlooked German artist, acquired her title by marrying an impoverished aristocrat and had a style of painting that seems, in retrospect, far too raw, loose and comic for her 1920s era. But in "Artificial Complexion," the group show up at Various Small Fires, the Baroness comes off as a subversive godmother. Her painting of a urinal leaking behind an unopened umbrella, with pink streaks and cursive text in the background, belongs next to Liz Craft's ceramic lips from 2013. The lips have coins between their teeth and text bubbles on the wall beside them, including one that says "nice panties."

— Catherine Wagley