

Top 3 Exhibitions To See At Phoenix Art Museum

Written by Nicole Royse

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The Phoenix Art Museum is an impressive museum that offers an extensive collection of artwork in addition to rotating exhibitions perfect for the entire family to explore throughout the year, in addition to special events, lectures and docent tours lead throughout the week.

Visitors can also enjoy a stroll there the museum courtyard gardens, which boasts an incredible sculpture collection or grab a bite to eat at their excellent restaurant or go shopping at the museum gift shop for unique gifts. Here are the top 3 exhibitions to see now...



The Steele Gallery is currently featuring a stunning selection of 27 of Ferré's white shirts created over the course of his career in *The White Shirt According to Me, Gianfranco Ferré*. Stunning white shirts seem to float in the gallery while his sketches and technical designs are beautifully displayed in glass cases along with fascinating photographs adorn and videos of the artists give visitors a glimpse of the master behind the white shirts. These items are all from the private archives of the Gianfranco Ferré Foundation that examine the methods, techniques and precision applied in his designs. A simply beautiful exhibition reminding us of Gianfranco Ferré mastery of design and extraordinary talent, curated by the Gianfranco Ferré Foundation and by the Prato Textile Museum Foundation. Don't worry there is still plenty of time to check out this wonderful exhibition, which will be on view through March 6th, 2016.



Renowned Chinese artist and activist Ai Weiwei presents his *Circle of Animals/Zodiac Heads: Gold*, an exhibition inspired by "the twelve Chinese zodiac bronze sculptures from those that once graced the Qing dynasty fountain, in an eighteenth-century imperial retreat outside Beijing, looted by the British and French troops in the Second Opium War in 1860." The artist viewed these works as a symbol of "cultural theft", deciding to recreate the sculptures as a commentary and protest. A striking exhibition of brilliant gold statues along with a great film about the work and artist that has been paired with eighteenth-century Chinese bronze works from Phoenix Art Museum's collection curated by Dr. Janet Baker. This exhibition will only be on display until January 31st, 2016 in the Art of Asia Gallery.

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Finally don't miss seeing *Masters of Spanish Colonial Art* featuring an excellent selection of 18th century paintings from the Viceroyalty of Peru, along with 19th century *retablos* produced in Mexico and two silver and gold plaques recently acquired by Phoenix Art Museum. "Works showcase the inventiveness, originality, and skill of artists working in the Spanish viceroyalties during the 18th century illustrating religious imagery and its multifaceted meanings in the colonial world", states Curator, Dr. Vanessa Davidson. The exhibition will be on view until February 28, 2016 in the Orme Lewis Gallery. *Images courtesy and copyright of Phoenix Art Museum and Nicole Royse.



The Phoenix Art Museum is located at 1625 North Central Avenue, Phoenix 85004. The museum is open 10:00am to 9:00pm Wednesday, 10:00am to 5:00pm Thursday through Saturday, and 12:00pm to 5:00pm Sunday. General Admission is \$15 for adults, \$6 for children ages 6-17 (under age 6 are admitted free), \$12 for Seniors and \$10 for college students with ID and Wednesday's from 3-9pm the museum offers free admission. For more about these exhibitions be sure to visit the Phoenix Art Museum online at <http://www.phxart.org/exhibition>.

