

New Summer Season Opens at the MCA Museum

Written by Nicole Royse

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Head to the MCA Museum to enjoy five new eclectic exhibitions to kick off their summer season!

Join the MCA Museum for the opening reception for their five new summer exhibitions on Friday, May 13th, 2016 from 7-10pm. Many of the featured artists will be in attendance plus patrons can enjoy live music by The Walt Richardson Trio and refreshments in the courtyard, which recently received a beautiful new 35-foot tall mural created by El Mac.



An eclectic array of artwork will be on view this summer including the much anticipated *El Mac: Aerosol Exalted, From the Street to the Gallery*, which will showcase the latest work of internationally renown street artist EL Mac. He creates stunning portraits of everyday people, "With his signature rippled line style, El Mac creates photorealistic portraits, often using family, friends and individuals underrepresented in society as models", states MCA Museum. This exhibition will be on display in the Main Gallery from May 13th through August 7th, 2016.



The North Gallery features the 2015 North Gallery proposal winners, local artists, Christopher Jagmin and Patricia Sannit with *Journey and Memory: Past the Rock, the Sun's Gates and the Land of Dreams*. This joint exhibition brings together the work of painter Christopher Jagmin and sculptor Patricia Sannit "to create a dialog between materials, historical vocabularies and societal content while incorporating historically inspired marks and patterns that are representative of human culture". This a must see exhibition and it will be on display through August 7th, 2016.

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The South Gallery features *Hat Tip: A Tribute to Arts Philanthropy*, a selection of works that have been gifted and purchased over the last 10 years at the current location of the Mesa Arts Center. Their diverse collection continues to grow through the support of artists, patrons, and donors and this wonderful exhibition will be on display through July 31st, 2016.



The SRP Gallery presents *Threads: Gathering My Thoughts*, the solo exhibition of Susan Lenz is on display in through August 7th, 2016. "This a site-specific installation that invites visitors to explore a labyrinth of colorful threads and baskets that hang from the ceiling and envelop the space." This exhibition plays on the idea of "yarn-bombing" while looking at the human mind and its complexities.



2014 Project Room winner Kristin Beeler debuts her latest series "Archive of Rag and Bone" which "presents portraits and related objects that document very specific moments in time through memory." This multi-media exhibition highlights hand embroidered Tyvek garments objects rendered in silver, mother of pearl and charcoal and will be on display through August 7th, 2016.



The Mesa Arts Center is located at One East Main Street in downtown Mesa. Be sure to visit their website for a complete list of exhibitions and upcoming events <http://www.mesaartscenter.com/> and follow them on twitter at @mesaartscenter. *All Images courtesy and copyright of Mesa Contemporary Art Museum and featured artists.