

arts news release
scottsdale museum of contemporary art

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Jan. 9, 2018

**SCOTTSDALE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART
SPRING 2018 PROGRAMS CALENDAR**



Crowd cheers the winner of the SMOCA 2017 Art Handlers Triathlon.
Photo: Claire A. Warden

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona – The Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art (SMoCA) presents a wide range of exciting and diverse programs, including some brand new ones, for the Spring 2018 season. Here's what's coming up this month through May:

Panel Discussion:
Paolo Soleri as Visionary
January 11, 7 p.m.
\$5 (Members \$3)

SMoCA Curator of Contemporary Art Claire C. Carter will moderate a conversation between scholar Jonathon Keats and architect and Paolo Soleri student Will Bruder. The conversation will place Soleri among

quintessential mid-century "visionary architects" Archigram, Buckminster Fuller and Constant Nieuwenhuys, among others.

Viceland @SMoCA: Water Wars

January 18, 7 p.m.
\$7 (Members \$4)

Water politics have been an ongoing global concern as populations grow and droughts plague certain regions. In this screening, cable television channel Viceland series *Abandoned* and *Rise* visit with residents in rural California and Canada as they speak out about the quality and availability of water in their communities and the sustainability of their current situations.

The Studio @SMoCA: Harvesting Color

January 20, Noon–3 p.m.
\$35 (Members \$30)

Inspired by the artists of *Marking the Infinite: Contemporary Women Artists from Aboriginal Australia* to look to our own backyards for materials to make art, we invited the experts from Peaceful Prairie Ranch in Prescott Valley to teach a class about the local natural fiber industry. They will supply the locally sourced plants and Arizona-grown alpaca yarn for participants to get first-hand experience dyeing and learning about how to harvest plants for natural dye. Materials and light refreshments provided.

Lit Happy Hour

The Strip: *Las Vegas and the Architecture of the American Dream* by Stefan Al

January 25, 6–7:30 p.m.
\$7 (Members \$4)

Curator of Contemporary Art Claire C. Carter will lead a discussion of *The Strip: Las Vegas and the Architecture of the American Dream*, comparing the city's postwar rise, urban design, architectural form and mass consumption against the solutions proposed by Paolo Soleri's experimental communities, Cosanti and Arcosanti.

NEW!

Flavor Lab:

Zak's Chocolate

February 2, 7 p.m.
\$15 individual, \$20 per pair

Titillate your taste buds and satisfy your sweet tooth with this hands-on, chef-led demonstration and chocolate tasting by Zak's Chocolate in time for Valentine's Day. Surprise that special someone with handmade craft chocolate or bring them along for a decadent date night. There will be a cash bar featuring a signature cocktail and wine pairings to go perfectly with the handcrafted chocolate.

Learn how cocoa beans are transformed into chocolate and discover the world of natural flavors that can be found in craft chocolate. The event includes an overview about cocoa beans and chocolate-making; a video tour of cacao farming and post-harvest activities; a demonstration of micro-batch "bean-to-bar" craft chocolate-making; and a video tour of Zak's small-batch production factory. Participants will taste freshly roasted cocoa beans, as well as see and taste chocolate as it is being made.

Artist Talk:**Luis Alfonso Villalobos**

February 15, 7 p.m.

Free

Enjoy a sneak peak of the latest Architecture + Art exhibition with Guadalajara-based artist Luis Alfonso Villalobos. Casandra Hernández Faham, curator of CALA Alliance (Celebración Artística de las Américas), ASU Art Museum, will join Villalobos for a lively discussion about art, architecture, place and history.

NEW!**Mystery in the Museum:****The Curious Curator**

March 3, 6 p.m.

\$20 individual, \$30 per pair

While installing an exhibition, a curator mysteriously vanished in the museum. It is your task to solve puzzles and follow clues throughout the museum to find her, but you have only one hour before the museum closes and everyone is locked in! Participants will be split into teams of four or five, so bring a friend for an evening full of mystery and code cracking. Cash bar and light bites to be served.

Yard Games for Art:**Spring Break Edition**

March 16, 7 p.m.

\$10

The outdoors are coming inside the museum just in time for Spring Break! There's nothing like some healthy competition among friends in these classic yard games with a SMoCA twist. Your host, comedian Danielle Williams from AZTV Channel 7, will bring the laughs. And did we mention that the winner gets to go home with a one-of-a-kind artwork? A lot is a stake, so come with your game face on. There will be a cash bar with hard lemonade and craft beer.

Behind-the-Scenes @SMoCA:**Jim Morris, Pixar Animation Studios**

March 22, 7 p.m.

\$20

Join us for the opportunity to hear Jim Morris, president of Pixar Animation Studios, give a behind-the-scenes breakdown of the creative, technical and production process Pixar used to create the film *Inside Out*. A reception at nearby Tilt Gallery will follow the event.

Out@SMoCA:**Dan Savage**

April 5, 7 p.m.

\$35 (Members \$30)

Virginia G. Piper Theater

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts

Writer, TV personality and activist Dan Savage joins us for a moderated discussion on his frank approach to social commentary and activism. Signed copies of one of Savage's books will be raffled to benefit a local LGBTQ organization.

Savage is best known for his political and social commentary, as well as his honest approach to sex, love and relationships. His sex advice column, "Savage Love," is syndicated in newspapers and websites throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Asia. He is the editorial director of *The Stranger*, Seattle's weekly alternative newspaper, and his writing has appeared in numerous publications, including *The New York Times*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *GQ*, *Rolling Stone* and *The Onion*, as well as on *Salon.com*.

In addition to his appearances on CNN, MSNBC and *The Colbert Report*, Savage is a contributor to Ira Glass's *This American Life*, and has appeared on NPR's *Fresh Air with Terry Gross*, HBO's *Real Time with Bill Maher* and ABC's *20/20*. He is a frequent and popular speaker on college campuses across the United States and Canada.

Presented in partnership with the City of Scottsdale Office of Diversity, Scottsdale Human Relations Commission and media partner *Echo Magazine*.

NEW!

FYI: Trivia Night @SMoCA

April 20, 7 p.m.

\$10, includes one free drink

Comedian Anwar Newton hosts an evening rich with movie, TV and music references to test your pop culture IQ. Drop some knowledge on us to win prizes and beat Newton at his own game. How can it possibly get better, you ask? Your first drink is on us! So join us for a trivia night like no other.

Documentary Video Art Festival

April 26, 7 p.m.

Free

A showcase of experimental short videos highlighting social, cultural and personal topics. These artworks were produced by students in Documentary Video Art as part of the Intermedia program of the School of Art, Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, Arizona State University.

NEW!

Unwind @SMoCA

May 2, 5 p.m.

\$15

Feeling the mid-week blues? Head over to SMoCA for an exclusive after-hours wind-down session with guided meditation in the James Turrell *Knight Rise* Skyspace, curator-led coloring activities with cocktails and an intimate tour with a curator that goes in-depth on select pieces in an exhibition to allow the time focus on the details in each artwork.

Artist Talk: Claudio Dicochea

May 10, 7 p.m.

Free

Hear artist Claudio Dicochea talk about his exhibition *Acid Baroque* and its exploration of fandom, race, science, national identity, pop imagery and visual culture.

SCOTTSDALE ARTS

Through its partnership with the City of Scottsdale, the nonprofit Scottsdale Arts (formerly known as Scottsdale Cultural Council) creates diverse, inspired arts experiences and educational opportunities that foster active, lifelong community engagement with the arts. Since its founding in 1987, Scottsdale Arts has grown into a regionally and nationally significant, multi-disciplinary arts organization offering an exceptional variety of programs through three acclaimed divisions – Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art (SMoCA) and Scottsdale Public Art – serving more than 400,000 participants annually.

ABOUT SMOCA

Founded in 1999, Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art (SMoCA) explores the best of contemporary art, architecture and design. Global in its focus, the Museum is a unique and vital cultural resource for the Southwest, serving local audiences as well as visitors from the United States and abroad. Designed by award-winning architect Will Bruder, SMoCA's minimalist building (an ingenious renovation of a former movie theater) has four galleries for showcasing changing exhibitions and works from the Museum's collection, along with SMoCA Lounge, a living, functional art installation and space for community engagement. The Museum presents a wide variety of educational programs and special events for adults and families, including lectures, readings, performances, docent-led tours, workshops and classes. SMoCA also features an outdoor sculpture garden housing James Turrell's *Knight Rise*, one of the renowned artist's public skyspaces, and *Scrim Wall*, a monumental curtain of translucent glass panels by James Carpenter Design Associates. The Museum's retail store, Shop@SMoCA, offers classic design objects and furnishings, contemporary jewelry, art and architecture books, and imaginative gifts for all occasions.

VISITOR INFORMATION

Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art

7374 E. Second St., Scottsdale, AZ 85251

www.SMoCA.org

480-874-4666

SMoCA@ScottsdaleArts.org

HOURS AND ADMISSION

Tuesday – Wednesday, noon – 5 p.m.

Thursday – Saturday, noon – 9 p.m.

Sunday, noon – 5 p.m.

Closed Mondays and major holidays

Admission: \$10 adults, \$7 students, free for members and children under 15

Free on Thursdays and after 5 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays

For interviews, digital images or additional information, please contact:

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