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New Contemporary Exhibitions Pushing Boundaries of Traditional Mediums

Insectographia: Drawing in Enamel, by Charity Hall

Arrangement for a Silent Orchestra, by Julie Comnick

Chamber Music: A Mostly Silent Exhibition, by Diane Gilbert

36th Annual Contemporary Craft Exhibition

Beaded, not Broken, by Brenda Brousseau

For Immediate Release

Dec. 15, 2014

Mesa, AZ – Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum presents five new contemporary exhibitions, showcasing curated and juried exhibitions of contemporary art by emerging and internationally recognized artists. Exhibitions will be celebrated at a free reception, Friday, Feb. 13, 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. in the museum courtyard.

Exhibitions opening on or after Dec. 15 include: *Insectographia: Drawing in Enamel* by Charity Hall; *Arrangement for a Silent Orchestra*, by Julie Comnick; *Chamber Music: A Mostly Silent Exhibition*, by Diane Gilbert; *36th Annual Contemporary Craft Exhibition*; and *Beaded, not Broken*, by Brenda Brousseau.



***Insectographia: Drawing in Enamel*
Charity Hall**

Dec 12, 2014 – Mar 1, 2015 | SRP Gallery

This exhibition features the biologically inspired enamels of Blacksburg, Virginia artist Charity Hall. With an emphasis on entomological imagery, Hall looks beyond the ick factor generally associated with insects and captures their inherent beauty on hand-fabricated brooches and other small jewelry items. On her enameled surfaces, Hall incorporates a variety

of traditional and contemporary methods including drawing, painting and sgraffito.



Arrangement for a Silent Orchestra

Julie Comnick

Dec 19, 2014 – Mar 22, 2015 | South Gallery

Arrangement for a Silent Orchestra is a painting and video project that explores the gradual dissolution of culture in contemporary society through the symbolic ruin of a personal and cultural icon, the violin. Using the violin as a metaphor, Prescott artist Julie Comnick raises questions about the relationship between increasing technology and diminishing cultural heritage. She invites the audience to consider what makes the instrument precious in his or her

own experience and the impact of its loss.



Chamber Music: A Mostly Silent Installation

Diane Gilbert

Jan 23 – Apr 26, 2015 | North Gallery

Diane Gilbert's installation creates a spatial environment full of subtle light, expressive shadows, and sculptural forms that are mostly air. Her materials are thousands of played guitar strings and tiny squares of painted screen. Each piece is composed of strings played by many musicians who never knew

each other but are now playing silently together contributing to the larger expression of a luminous space.



Beaded, not Broken

Brenda Brousseau

Feb 13 – Apr 12, 2015 | Project Room

Inspired by traditional Native American beadwork, Minnesota artist Brenda Brousseau uses beads to convey her journey of spiritual growth and healing. Brousseau incorporates ritually significant objects, like headdresses and mandalas, into her work and layers them with personal symbolism and meaning. For Brousseau, the meticulous beading process becomes a creative outlet and meditative practice. Brenda Brousseau is the 35th Annual Contemporary Crafts exhibition Juror's Choice winner.



36th Annual Contemporary Craft Exhibition

A National Juried Exhibition

Feb 13 – Apr 5, 2015 | Main

Highlighting the finest in contemporary crafts from across the country, Mesa Contemporary Arts' Annual Contemporary Crafts exhibition has become a benchmark for innovation and quality. This exhibition is representative of traditional craft mediums including ceramics, fibers, basketry, metals, wood, glass, jewelry, papermaking and book arts.

Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum is located on the Mesa Arts Center campus at One East Main Street in downtown Mesa. Admission is free, and visiting hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with extended hours on Thursday until 8 p.m., and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum front desk: 480-644-6567.

Mesa Arts Center is located at One East Main Street in downtown Mesa.

Editor's Note: Images are available for download via Mesa Arts Center's online Press Room at <http://www.mesaartscenter.com/index.php/misc/about/press-room/login>. Password is macmedia.

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ABOUT MESA ARTS CENTER

The Mesa Arts Center mission is to inspire people through engaging arts experiences that are diverse, accessible, and relevant. Owned and operated by the City of Mesa, Arizona's largest arts center is recognized as an international award-winning venue. The unique and architecturally stunning facility is home to four theaters, five art galleries, and 14 art studios and an artist cooperative gallery. For more information, visit [mesaartscenter.com](http://www.mesaartscenter.com).