



Media Contact: Mesa Arts Center: Casey Blake, (480) 644-6620,
casey.blake@mesaartscenter.com

Five new exhibitions at Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum
The Seattle Series, ARTillery, Vantage Point, Patched and *Docents Select*
Free Reception Friday, May 8

For Immediate Release: April 6, 2015

Mesa, AZ – Summer exhibitions at Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum continue the museum’s tradition of showcasing curated and juried exhibitions of contemporary art by emerging and internationally recognized artists. Five exhibitions will be celebrated at a free reception, Friday, May 8, 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. in the museum courtyard.

Exhibitions currently in the Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum, or opening on April 24 or May 8th, include *The Seattle Series*, *ARTillery*, *Vantage Point*, and *Patched*. The reception features musical entertainment and an opportunity to meet artists showing work in the exhibitions.



The Seattle Series
William Barnhart
April 3 – August 16, 2015

Created in the summer of 2014, Arizona artist William Barnhart’s *Seattle Series* is a gorgeous collection of large-scale, high-color, oil-on-canvas paintings. Barnhart honors aquatic and aviary life in his inimitable style: wide strokes, bright vistas, deep movement. Made while the prolific, celebrated artist was sailing on Washington’s Lake Union on his

beloved, restored sailboat, “Champion,” this new series interpret the sights, sounds and experiences of being alive. *Curated by Robrt Pela.*



ARTillery
Contemporary Art Influences by Weaponry
April 24 – August 16, 2015

Since the inception of our great country, firearms and weapons in general have become an influential part of American society. This fascination remains prevalent in our current culture and is reflected in movies, news, politics, government policies and even

childhood memories (Who can say they have never used a squirt gun growing up?). This exhibition examines the appearance and meaning of weaponry in contemporary art by leading artists. *Curated by Annie Adjchavanich.*



Vantage Point
Maggy Rozycki Hiltner
April 24 – August 16, 2015

Incorporating embroidery she finds at antique shops, Montana artist Maggy Rozycki Hiltner simulates classic 1950s and 60s imagery to invoke a sense of nostalgia. The seemingly idealized landscapes depicted in her work convey a deeper story and address environmental concerns. Hiltner's impressive

narrative is captured in a 288 square foot embroidery installation that encompasses the entire gallery space.



Patched
Kaori Takamura
May 8 – August 16, 2015

Arizona artist Kaori Takamura is known for her vibrant and boldly graphic mixed media paintings. Through symbols and her metaphorical "stitching" technique, Takamura transforms ordinary objects into commentaries on life. Takamura incorporates unconventional textile methods that are based on traditional fabric patterning, embroidery and lace vector art as a way of expressing women's tangled and intricate everyday feelings.



Docents Select V
Works from the Permanent Collection
May 8 – August 16, 2015

As with most museums, the Mesa Contemporary Arts (MCA) Museum Docents are central to the functionality of the museum. Through their volunteer efforts and assistance, tours are conducted, artwork is researched, special talks are prepared and opening receptions succeed. This exhibition was entirely curated by the MCA Museum Docents and demonstrates some of the research they have conducted on pieces from the permanent collection.

Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum is located on the Mesa Arts Center campus at One E. Main Street in downtown Mesa. Admission is free, and 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.

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).

###

About Mesa Arts Center

The Mesa Arts Center, owned and operated by the City of Mesa, is a unique,

architecturally stunning facility located in the heart of downtown Mesa. Arizona's largest arts center is home to four theaters, five art galleries, 14 art studios, and an artist cooperative gallery. Guests, patrons, and students come to Mesa Arts Center to enjoy the finest live entertainment and performances, world-class visual art exhibitions, and outstanding arts education classes. The Mesa Arts Center mission is to inspire people through engaging arts experiences that are diverse, accessible, and relevant. For more information, visit [mesaartscenter.com](https://www.mesaartscenter.com).