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Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum's
Spring 2022 Exhibitions Opening Reception on February 11
Exhibitions to Feature Works related to Glass from Local and International Artist

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 31, 2022 (Mesa, AZ) **Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum** is pleased to announce its Spring 2022 exhibition season and free public Opening Reception on **Friday, February 11 at 7 p.m.**

Featuring several exhibitions related to glass in conjunction with the United Nation's declaration of 2022 as the International Year of Glass. These exhibitions are supported in part by Arizona Glass Alliance and Art Alliance for Contemporary Glass.

Joseph Cavalieri - *Focus on 5*

Now - March 20, 2022

Using his two loves of painted stained glass and oil on canvas, New York artist Joseph Cavalieri energetically combines familiar and unknown subjects in a refreshing and very detailed manner. He is intrigued by the cross pollination of cultures, especially of the US and Asia. Unique visual collaborations are created through his personal vision of shiny plastic Funko toys, popular Star Trek personalities and Soviet architecture.

Jennifer Caldwell and Jason Chakravarty - *Head in the Clouds*

Now - April 3, 2022

Arizona artists Jennifer Caldwell and Jason Chakravarty create narrative driven glass sculptures. Their work references personal observations from daily life and travel. Compositions always include recognizable, nostalgic and/or iconic imagery. This is accomplished utilizing a full spectrum of technical glass approaches. *Head in The Clouds* encompasses the overshadowing cognitive weight felt during the pandemic.

Troy Moody - *Meminisse*

Now – April 10, 2022

Arizona artist Troy Moody, whose career spans more than two decades, is known for his innovative, expressive art glass assemblages. Moody combines the nuance of kiln-formed color fields of glass with various acrylic mediums to capture anachronistic imagery and automatic painting, evoking an unexpected visual optimism. Through glass, steel, acrylics and found objects, Moody's latest body of work is inspired by our relationships with the material world and the by-products of our cultural narratives.

43rd Annual Contemporary Crafts

February 11 – April 24, 2022

Highlighting the finest in contemporary crafts from across the country, Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum's Annual Contemporary Crafts 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.

Guest Juror for the *43rd Annual Contemporary Crafts* exhibition was Beth C. McLaughlin, Artistic Director and Chief Curator of Fuller Craft Museum in Brockton, MA.

Ana M. Lopez - *Air Currency*

February 11 – April 24, 2022

In her latest work, Texas metalsmith Ana M. Lopez presents a series of enameled metal sculptures that address our increasingly complex relationship with air conditioning and ventilation. Typically mass-produced by industrial processes, Lopez uses laborious craft processes to recreate the ubiquitous, invisible forms that populate many rooftops and exterior walls for artificial air handling. She merges the decorative and industrial arts, creating a conversation about wealth, display, power, and privilege as they relate to this modern amenity.

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About Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum at Mesa Arts Center

Mesa Arts Center's (MAC) mission is to invite all people to create and discover entertaining, challenging and diverse art and arts experiences within joyous, dynamic and welcoming environments. As part of Mesa Arts Center, Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum (MCA Museum) showcases the best in Contemporary Art by emerging, nationally and internationally recognized artists. MCA Museum provides support and advancement to artists through solo, group and juried exhibitions. MCA Museum's free admission and strong engagement programs provide visitors with free school and public tours, a robust docent program and free artist talks.

About Mesa Arts Center

Mesa Arts Center, owned and operated by the City of Mesa, is a unique, architecturally stunning, international award-winning facility located in the heart of downtown Mesa. Arizona's largest arts center is home to four theaters, five art galleries, and 14 art studios. 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 facility is an architectural showpiece and a destination for visitors to the Phoenix area. Mesa Arts Center's mission is to invite all people to create and discover entertaining, challenging and diverse art and arts experiences within joyous, dynamic and welcoming environments. For more information, visit mesaartscenter.com.