



## MESA ARTS CENTER

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: Ashlee DeMartino  
O 480-644-6620 C 480-387-0442  
[Ashlee.DeMartino@MesaArtsCenter.com](mailto:Ashlee.DeMartino@MesaArtsCenter.com)

Images/Videos: [HERE](#)

### **Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum's Summer 2022 Exhibitions Featuring Chicano Art pieces from Judson C. Ball and Nancy Ball Collection Opening reception Friday, May 13 | 7 – 10 PM.**

Mesa, AZ – Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum will celebrate the opening of five new exhibitions with a free reception and musical entertainment by Dients on Friday, May 13, 2022, from 7 – 10 PM.

Summer exhibitions include Monica Aissa Martinez's ***Nothing In Stasis***, depicting the intricate structures and complex diversities of living organisms. ***Laloland*** a retrospective exhibition of Lalo Cota's Chicano low-rider culture and Mexican folk art-inspired work from the last 20 years. In ***Choice Cuts*** Lanner Tanner reexamines how advertisers have historically reinforced hierarchical power structures that exiled women to domestic spaces and men to industry. ***Somos Southwest*** highlights the private collection of Chicano Art from the last five decades from the Judson C. Ball and Nancy Sue Ball collection. ***Sanctuary***, Eliza Au's exhibition investigates the role patterns play in sacred spaces, and how these spaces facilitate and fulfill the human quest for meaning and understanding of the unknown.

#### ***Nothing In Stasis***

**Monica Aissa Martinez**

April 8 – August 7, 2022

For the last decade, Phoenix-based artist Monica Aissa Martinez has been researching and depicting the intricate structures and complex diversities of living organisms. From humans to microorganisms, Martinez masterfully captures the physical, mental, and spirit of our biological world. ***Nothing In Stasis*** features Martinez's latest body of work of more than 40 colorful physiological and anatomical drawings.

\* Monica Aissa Martinez is a 2019 proposal winner.

#### ***Laloland***

## **Lalo Cota**

April 15 – August 7, 2022

A self-taught Phoenix painter and muralist, Lalo Cota is known for his vibrant Día de los Muertos imagery of skeletons juxtaposed with Sombrero-shaped spaceships hovering over a Southwest landscape. Cota draws inspiration from a myriad of sources, including Chicano low-rider culture and Mexican folk art. A retrospective of the last twenty years, *LALOLAND* invites viewers to jump in a lowrider and hold on for an epic ride.

## **Choice Cuts**

### **Laura Tanner**

April 22 – August 7, 2022

Known for her hand-cut mylar drawings, Tucson artist Laura Tanner investigates the social constructs of gender and class. She reexamines how advertisers have historically reinforced hierarchical power structures that exiled women to domestic spaces and men to industry. Tanner's art reflects on colloquial terms, like "breadwinner," and how these patriarchal narratives, often associated with the preparation and presentation of food, perpetuate inequity.

\* Laura Tanner is a 2020 proposal winner.

## **Somos Southwest**

### **Judson C. Ball and Nancy Sue Ball Collection**

May 13 – August 7, 2022

For the last five decades, businessman Judson C. Ball and pioneer education in childhood learning disabilities Nancy Sue Ball have amassed an impressive collection of 281 objects by artists inspired by the Chicano Art Movement. Known for its, rich, vibrant colors and bold imagery, Chicano art is a celebration of Mexican/American heritage, culture, and traditions. This exhibition highlights 33 artists from the Southwest, whose work encompasses a wide range of subject matter and mediums, including oil, acrylic, watercolor, pencil, charcoal, ink, drawings, wood, and metal.

## **Sanctuary**

### **Eliza Au**

May 13 – August 7, 2022

*Sanctuary* is a site-specific installation by Texas artist Eliza Au. Constructed from three large stoneware lattice screens, the exhibition investigates the role patterns play in sacred spaces, and how these spaces facilitate and fulfill the human quest for meaning and understanding of the unknown. By bringing historical patterns into a contemporary context, Au strives to create a meditative space without a direct connection to religious ideology.

\* Eliza Au is a 2020 proposal winner.

**Museum Hours:**

Mon: CLOSED

Tue – Sat: 10 AM-5 PM

Sun: Noon-5 PM

For more information, visit [mesaartscenter.com/mcam](https://mesaartscenter.com/mcam) or call 480-644-6560.

Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum is located at 1 East Main Street in downtown Mesa, AZ, 85201. Admission is always free.

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**ABOUT MESA CONTEMPORARY ARTS MUSEUM**

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](https://mesaartscenter.com).