

20
YEARS



MESA ARTS CENTER



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Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum Spring 2025 Exhibitions Opening Reception Friday, Feb. 14 | 7–10 p.m.



Image credit: Christina Weaver, “Compost: Winter to Spring,” 2024, Oil on canvas, 30 x 36 inches. Additional high-res images [here](#).

Mesa, AZ – Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum celebrates the opening of five new exhibitions featuring artists **Farraday Newsome**, **Martin Dimitrov** and **Joseph Sivilli**, along with “**Beyond Description**,” a group invitational exhibition, and the “**46th Annual Contemporary Crafts**” exhibition featuring the finest contemporary crafts from across the country.

The free opening reception on **Friday, Feb. 14, 2025, from 7–10 p.m.**, includes musical entertainment, light refreshments and a cash bar.

“We are thrilled to showcase the work of our prospectus winners, Martin Dimitrov in painting and Farraday Newsome in ceramics, alongside the 46th Annual Contemporary Crafts exhibition,” said Mary-Beth Buesgen, curator of Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum. “We’re also excited to welcome back last year’s Juror’s Choice winner, Joseph Sivilli, whose installation pushes the boundaries of time. Additionally, we’re proud to highlight renowned observational painters in ‘Beyond Description,’ a powerful exhibition last presented in New York, featuring some of today’s most celebrated painters.”

“Farraday Newsome: Memento Vitae, My Body is Your Nest”

Dec. 13, 2024–Mar 16, 2025

This exhibition showcases a new collection of ceramic works created between 2020 and 2024 which reflects her deep interest in the intelligent, lush beauty of nature and its brilliantly creative strategies for propagation. Frequently exploring personal metaphoric associations and emotional reactions to being female in a biological world, it is important to the artist that this work not be overly anthropocentric; wanting to take fertility and nurturing beyond the experience of human reproduction to that of nature itself as an infinitely beautiful, self-perpetuating living system.

“Beyond Description”

Jan. 10–April 6, 2025

A group invitational featuring 15 artists who investigate the process of representation by exploring the world around them through the medium of paint. This exhibition is a survey of some of the most important painters working today.

Artists include: David Baird, Eric Elliott, Dean Fisher, Ruth Miller Forge, Zoey Frank, Ann Gale, Catherine Kehoe, Ying Li, Gage Opdenbrouw, Gillian Pederson-Krag, Stephanie Pierce, Ed Praybe, Kimberly Trowbridge, Christina Weaver and Jordan Wolfson.

“46th Annual Contemporary Crafts”

Feb. 14–April 20, 2025

Highlighting the finest in contemporary crafts from across the country, Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum’s Annual Contemporary Crafts exhibition has become a benchmark for innovation and quality. Representative of traditional craft mediums including ceramics, fibers, basketry, metals, wood, glass and jewelry.

Guest Juror for the 46th Annual Contemporary Crafts exhibition was Carol Eckert. She is a fiber artist, curator and writer. Eckert uses a coiled fiber technique, producing works inspired by stories, mythology and animal symbols.

“Nocturnal Gardens”

Martin Dimitrov

Jan. 24–April 13, 2025

This exhibition highlights paintings created through direct observation (from life) over an

extended period of time. This approach allows Dimitrov to explore the passage of time and explore the act of seeing in a painting. Nature's effect on the artist is both subjective — influencing our emotional state, as well as objective — the range of light and color that our naked eye perceives is yet to be matched by a photograph.

“Posthistoric Evolution”

Joseph Sivilli

Feb. 14–Apr 27, 2025

“Posthistoric Evolution” is an installation that invites the public to walk amongst the solid yet ephemeral objects in a scene seemingly outside of time. Sivilli's ceramic objects recall natural and biological origins, though they are stripped of their purpose and have become static forms, an echo of their indeterminate past.

Joseph Sivilli is the “45th Annual Contemporary Crafts” exhibition Juror's Choice winner.

Museum hours:

Mon: CLOSED

Tue–Sat: 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Sun: Noon–5 p.m.

For more information, visit mesaartscenter.com/mcam or call 480-644-6560.

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

About Mesa Arts Center

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 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. Mesa Arts Center's mission is to inspire people through engaging arts experiences that are diverse, accessible and relevant. For more information, visit mesaartscenter.com.

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