



TUCSON MUSEUM *of* ART
CONTEMPORARY ART SOCIETY



Southwest Rising

Contemporary Art and the Legacy
of Elaine Horwitch

through September 20, 2020

ARIZONA BIENNIAL 2020

October 2, 2020 - January 10, 2021

CAS NEWSLETTER | SPRING 2020



TUCSON MUSEUM *of* ART
AND HISTORIC BLOCK

A Note from CAS President:

After the disappointment of cancelling our spring schedule, we are optimistically planning to resume CAS activities in October. I profoundly thank everyone who contributed to the success of the five events and bus trip that we produced this season to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Contemporary Art Society. Our board of directors 'who make it all happen' have my utmost respect, and the volunteers they recruit from among our membership are absolutely remarkable.



As announced to the CAS board of directors in January, I will only serve one term as president of this impressive group of artists and art patrons. I have been honored to preside over the largest support organization of TMA and will continue to serve on its board. Our vice president, Kate Phillips, is ready to assume the role; we will be in very capable hands. As communicated in my email last month, it will be necessary to have CAS members vote on the board slate including board officers in May. Since we cannot meet in person for the annual meeting, we should be able to fulfill this obligation electronically.

I'm crossing my fingers that we'll be able to cross the threshold of our museum soon. I truly look forward to seeing everyone again!

Denise Grusin

sculpture:
Enrique Martínez Celaya
The Well
bronze
Courtesy of Kohn Gallery, Los Angeles

image credit: Louise Ferro

PHOENIX DAY TRIP

January 11

On Saturday, January 11, fifty-four CAS members set off on our annual day trip to Phoenix-area art venues, led by Julie Sasse and Pam Parry. The first stop was in Scottsdale at the beautiful home and collection of David and Dawn Lenhardt. The couple has been collaborating with the Phoenix Art Museum since 2017 to create the Dawn and David Lenhardt Contemporary Art Initiative, which will work with the museum to elevate the profile of contemporary art both at the museum and in the Phoenix community, including exhibitions of works from the Lenhardt collection by such renown artists as Ai Wei Wei, Nick Cave, Mark Bradford, Roy Lichtenstein, and Damien Hirst.

Next we were off to a brief visit at the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, where Assistant Curator Lauren O'Connell introduced the group to the current exhibition entitled *Counter-Landscapes: Performative Actions from the 1970s – Now*. It presents a group of artists working in both natural and urban environments whose work exploits the power of place to address issues of social, environmental, and personal transformation.

After lunch at Culinary Dropout in Tempe, the next stop was the studio of photographer Mark Klett, who is well known for his work with colleague Byron Wolfe that juxtaposes and blends images of the Arizona landscape of the present with

photographs taken of the same locations in the 19th century. He is now also working on a series of stereo photographs of cacti of the Sonoran desert.

At the ASU Art Museum, Curator Julio Morales gave the group a tour of two exhibitions. The first was *Pulso* (2016) by Tania Candiani, a dynamic sound-based project depicting a one-day performance by 195 women in Mexico City's underground metro stations to protest unsafe conditions for women on the city's subway system. The second was *Begin at the End*, which features 14 contemporary artists who experiment with the written word.

The group then went to the Heard Museum for *David Hockney's Yosemite and Masters of California Basketry*. It combines large-scale Yosemite landscapes made originally by Hockney on an iPad with Mono Lake Paiute and Miwok basketry of the 20th century to highlight the impact that Yosemite has had over time and space on artistic production.

The last stop of the day was at Bentley Gallery where CAS member Jim Waid met us to talk about his exhibition of recent work.

The day ended, as always, with a lively happy hour on the bus while returning to Tucson. Many thanks go to Pam Parry and Julie Sasse for yet another educational and fun-filled visit to our neighbors to the north.



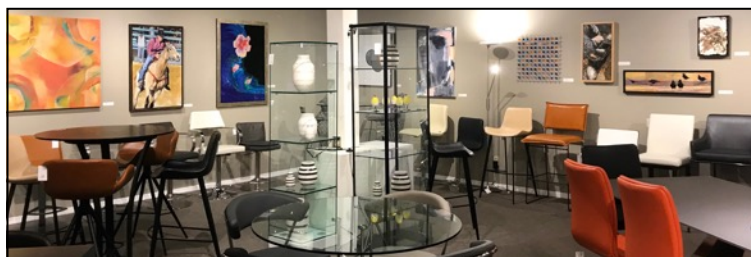
PATRON AND BENEFACTOR PARTY
HOME OF CAS FOUNDER
ELAINE LITVACK
 Sunday, January 19



The annual celebration honoring CAS Patrons and Benefactors took place at the exquisite home of Elaine Litvack whose collection sheds light on the best of modern and contemporary art and artists. Surrounded by two and three-dimensional works by such luminaries as Charles Bell, Andy Warhol, and John De Andrea to name a few, members strolled rooms and hallways on two levels studying these extraordinary works.

TMA/CEO, Jeremy Mikolajczak (pictured above with our host), apprised us of the state of construction work at the museum and cited upcoming events.

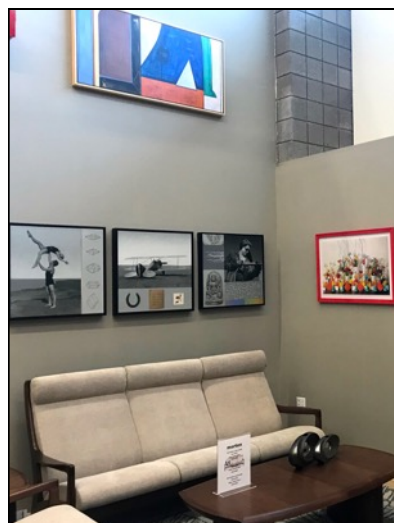
CAS extends its appreciation to Elaine and to Bill Bieber for opening their home to CAS.



CAS ARTISTS SHOW
COPENHAGEN

February 16

Once again, CAS artists exhibited new work in the vast galleries of Copenhagen for a weeklong period. The opening reception for the show and sale was attended by members who wandered through the galleries eyeing the paintings, prints, sculpture, and ceramics amidst the alluring contemporary furnishings.



CAS thanks Copenhagen, and more specifically Maurice Brantley, Jorgen Hansen, Cynthia Hansen, and Emily Hansen for their guidance and support in furthering this exceptional partnership.



(left to right)
 Cristine Hansen,
 Beth Foster,
 Cookie Pashkow,
 Fran McNeely

Copenhagen's
 Jorgen Hansen and
 CAS artist member
 Teri Pursch with Poppy



IMPORTANT TRAVEL UPDATE

The CAS trip to **Washington, D.C., and Baltimore** has been postponed until May 30-June 4, 2021. People who were signed up for the 2020 trip will have first dibs on the 2021 dates, followed by those already on the waiting list. Anyone who would like to be added to the waiting list, please contact Pam Parry, CAS Travel Committee Chair, at pamparry@gmail.com.

Please watch your emails for further travel updates!

CURATOR'S CORNER

On Being Resilient

In times like these, we are all tested for our ability to stand up to adversity and accept change. As a curator, being resilient takes effort, ingenuity, and the ability to let go, because so much of what we do usually takes years of preparation rather than spontaneity. While *Southwest Rising: Contemporary Art and the Legacy of Elaine Horwitch* was only on view for two weeks before COVID-19 shut it down, I am grateful that I was able to see my book in many hands and to share the opening festivities with the extended Horwitch family, my own family, and my museum family. So many curators around the world are facing reduced hours, unemployment, shuttered exhibitions, and cancellations—I know I am not alone.

While it's always fulfilling to see and work with the art in person and to bask in the satisfaction of having accomplished what I set out to do, it is the research, planning, and organizing that I love as much as the art itself. I got to interview scores of wonderful people, interesting artists, and friends of Elaine Horwitch, some whom have recently

passed due to the virus. It was those bonding moments with people, and the shared belief that Elaine Horwitch and her artists deserve to be remembered, is what I will remember and cherish. I feel like I have done my job by documenting that time and place, even if viewing the art of that era was cut short. I hope the exhibition will have a chance for an extended run, but if not, I am already working on new exhibitions to share with museum members in the future.

Some of my most engaging exhibitions have come from adversity—last minute change-outs for one reason or another, so I am not worried about a lack of ideas or opportunities. The Tucson Museum of Art has such a varied and expansive collection that new visual treats are around every corner. We just need to open our eyes, be resilient, and, like my mother always said, “this too shall pass.” The Tucson Museum of Art is for everyone, and we are working hard to be ready for re-opening when it is safe. We are indeed all in this together. I wish you all safety and good health.

Julie Sasse, Chief Curator



Southwest Rising: Contemporary Art and the Legacy of Elaine Horwitch, co-published by Cattle Track Arts & Preservation and Tucson Museum of Art

Julie Sasse's new book spotlights the colorful life, galleries, and artists associated with the Horwitch galleries. The book surveys art in Arizona and New Mexico from the middle of the 19th Century through the early 1990s. Purchase your copy now at:

<https://tucsonmuseumofart.org/product/southwest-rising-contemporary-art-and-the-legacy-of-elaine-horwitch/>

paperback: \$32 (includes shipping)

hard cover: \$44 (includes shipping)

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CAS MISSION

Established in 1999, the mission of the Contemporary Art Society (CAS) is to foster a greater community awareness of the role contemporary art plays in the region's cultural identity.

Objectives include furthering the goals of the Tucson Museum of Art by actively acquiring contemporary art for the permanent collection, supporting exhibitions of contemporary art at the museum, and sponsoring lectures by contemporary artists, curators, and critics.

In addition, CAS organizes studio visits, salons, tours, workshops, and events that promote the study, discussion, and appreciation of contemporary art.

NEW CAS MEMBERS SINCE THE WINTER 2020 NEWSLETTER

Sarah Demers I
 John Grobmeier* I
 Harrie Handler* I
 Robert* and Helen* Jennette B
 Janey Katz* and Suzi Calhoun* D/F
 Ann Lapidus* I
 Karon Leigh* I
 Nancy Mancuso I

Casonti McClure I
 Nirit Rechtman I
 Gail Roberts* I
 Untitled Gallery
 (Inna Rohr* and Jessie Shinn*) G
 Frederick & Cathy Wayand D/F
 Johnna Wills I
 Ava Young I

* denotes artist

A note from Hospitality Chair, Cita Scott:



Many thanks to the CAS members of the Hospitality Committee for your contributions and participation this season! Whether by making delicious delectables or prepping, serving and cleaning up afterwards, your support has given our events the special panache we're known for. Every host has been impressed by the committee's teamwork, from the set-up to exit, leaving everything back in place. Because of the museum and public venues in the past few months, there were not as many opportunities to participate—but next season we hope there will be and are already counting on your help. Please don't hesitate to contact me so I can add you to our list, and remind me if you'd like to be on it (citascott@me.com). It's wonderful to get to know each other over food and dishwashing in the name of art. Here's to a safe and healthy summer!

Thank you again!

Cita

While TMA's campus is closed until further notice and public programs cancelled, TMA and CAS will continue to bring you the current news. Here's a sample:

Exhibitions

Southwest Rising: Contemporary Art and the Legacy of Elaine Horwitch, closed on March 17 due to COVID-19, has been extended to September 20, 2020. A museum re-opening date has not yet been determined. All surrounding public lectures, book signings, etc., are cancelled. Should they be rescheduled, TMA and CAS will share those new dates.

A [video tour](#) of the exhibition with Julie Sasse will be available shortly on the TMA website (www.tucsonmuseumofart.org)!!!

Arizona Biennial 2020 dates: October 2, 2020 - January 10, 2021

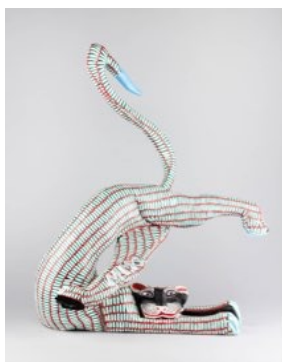
Permanent collection exhibitions will open as originally scheduled, awaiting re-opening of TMA campus.



Dwayne Manuel: Landslice

through June 20, 2020

Image credit:
Rendering of the mural depicting the Quinlan mountain range.
Courtesy of the Artist



Oaxacan Folk Art from the Shepard Barbash and Vicki Ragan Collection

ongoing

Image Credit: Margarito Melchor and Maria Teresa Santiago,
Red and White Striped Cat, 1989, wood, 9 x 14.5 x 22 in.
Collection of the Tucson Museum of Art. Gift of Shepard Barbash and Vicki Ragan



I'm Every Woman: Representations of Women on Paper

through September 6, 2020

Image Credit: Paul C. Valadez, *Abuela*, 2010, screenprint,
23/50, 20.125 x 16.125 in. Collection of the Tucson Museum of Art. Gift of the Artist



*In the midst of winter, I found there was, within me, an invincible summer.
And that makes me happy. For it says that no matter how hard the world
pushes against me, within me, there's something stronger – something better,
pushing right back.*

-Albert Camus

The CAS Board of Directors wishes you an 'invincible' summer
with new and exciting discoveries.
Keep positive vibes and stay healthy!

To the members of the 2019-2020 CAS Newsletter Committee:
David Andres, Barbara Jo Borch, Mark Flynn, Denise Grusin, Regina Heitzer-
Momaday, Pam Parry, Julie Sasse, Cita Scott, Marvin Shaver, Kerry Stratford,

We've survived this challenging season. I am thankful for your advice, talents, and,
most of all, friendship.

Lee Karpiscak

CAS Newsletter Editor

Image credit:
Jose Ibarrola (Spanish; b. 1955)
untitled, 2001
photograph, monoprint
Collection of Lee and Martin Karpiscak