



# TUCSON MUSEUM *of* ART

CONTEMPORARY ART SOCIETY

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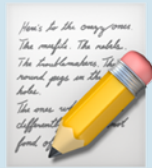
Image Credit: N.C. Wyeth, Eight Bells (Clyde, Stanley and Andrew Wyeth aboard Eight Bells), 1937, oil on hardboard. Bank of America Collection. (see page 9)

CAS NEWSLETTER | WINTER 2021



TUCSON MUSEUM *of* ART  
AND HISTORIC BLOCK

AND HISTORIC BLOCK



## A message from the CAS President. . .

Dear CAS members:

Happy New Year!

The CAS Board is full of hope for the new year and the promises it brings. During the early months of 2021, our programs will be a mixture of new events and previously scheduled (subsequently cancelled) social events. All of them must remain virtual - but life will improve, and we will soon start to plan for a new, in-person, 2021-2022 season. As always, I invite your thoughts and suggestions.

Looking back on these past months, I join my Board colleagues in feeling deep gratitude that you have maintained your membership and thereby expressed your support not only for the TMA but particularly for the Contemporary Art Society. Contemporary art represents a significant position in the many programs of our museum. A strong CAS membership sends a signal to strengthen the number of contemporary exhibitions and support acquisitions of cutting-edge art within the overall TMA programming.

You have no doubt witnessed the recent emphasis on inclusion, diversity, equity, and access (IDEA plan: <https://www.tucsonmuseumofart.org/inclusion-diversity-equity-access/>). Today's cultural organizations build community engagement upon these tenets. What does this mean for CAS? I suggest that we each make a special effort to bring in more new members with culturally diverse backgrounds, whose life experiences and interests will fertilize the development of our CAS programs and who will continue to broaden our horizon. I can also promise you that, if your contributions to CAS can be maintained even during these difficult financial times, the acquisitions purchased by CAS will also reflect the ideas of diversity and inclusion.

Our immediate goal is to make the March 20th TMA Gala a success since it is the major fundraising event of the year. I urge you to go to the TMA website and consider your options for supporting the Museum (please refer to p. 8). You may do that by contributing items for the auction or buying membership gifts for friends. Remember also that the advanced purchase ticket price of \$125 will increase to \$150 after February 1. It would be a win-win to do it now!

Please stay well and safe!

Kate Phillips, CAS President  
[kateatcas@gmail.com](mailto:kateatcas@gmail.com)



## VIRTUAL WINTER EVENTS

## VISIT TO THE STUDIOS OF TUCSON CERAMICISTS

## HIROTSUNE TASHIMA AND MARY MEYER

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 3:30-4:30PM

TMA Chief Curator Julie Sasse will begin this virtual event by introducing both artists who will present videos of their work specifically prepared for CAS members. You have already received the invitation to this program; please rsvp by January 10th.



Hirotsune Tashima has an MFA from Alfred University, NY, and BFA from Osaka University of Art. He has been teaching as the Head of the Ceramic Department at Pima Community College since 1999. Hiro is a member of the International Academy of Ceramics and has received numerous grants (Pollock-Krasner Foundation, Arizona Commission on the Arts, Tucson/Pima Arts Council, Phoenix Art Museum, Rotary International, and the Japanese Government).

Hiro's work has been featured in over 27 solo exhibitions and he was invited to participate in or jury more than 150 group exhibitions across the U.S., New Zealand, and Japan. Commissions include six public art projects in Tucson and two in Oro Valley, in addition to those at the Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport and Phoenix Convention Center. His work is in public and private collections in New Zealand, Australia, China, Canada, Hungary, Denmark, Germany, France, Ireland, and Japan.



*Organic Banana in the Supermarket*, 2011  
multiple fired stoneware  
63"x25"x30"



Mary Meyer creates mixed media works that investigate how the human form impacts, and is mirrored within, the natural world. Her practice is driven by an interest in ecology, biodiversity, anatomical structures, and the intuitive study of form. She is strongly influenced by a background in traditional stone carving, and uses meditative processes and materials to explore stillness, connection, and the physicality that is slowly diminishing from daily life.

Meyer exhibits her work regionally and nationally. She holds a BFA in sculpture from Arizona State University and an MFA from the University of Arizona. Her work has been recognized in museum exhibitions, including Tucson Museum of Art's Arizona Biennial. In 2007, she received the George M. Cullough Award and most recently was honored with the Pat Mutterer Award at the 2020 Biennial. She is a proposal winner for

her 2019 solo exhibition *Biophilia* at the Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum and a recipient of Phoenix Art Museum's Contemporary Forum Artists Grant. She has served as a Faculty Associate at Arizona State University and Scottsdale Community College and taught workshops for the Visions Youth Program through Scottsdale Arts. Her work is represented in public and private collections nationally and internationally.

*Forms of Life (detail)*, 2018  
black clay, graphite, gold pigment, pins, wood panels, wall installation



## VIRTUAL WINTER EVENTS, continued

## STUDIO OF ALFRED QUIROZ



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 3:30-4:30PM

Alfred Quiroz is Professor Emeritus of Art at the University of Arizona School of Art where he taught for three decades, receiving many teaching awards. He has won national and international recognition for his social, historical, satirical, and political works.

Mike Dominguez, former co-owner of Davis Dominguez Gallery, will give a brief overview of Alfred's accomplishments followed by a look at some of his work.

During our virtual studio visit, Alfred will relate many of the stories behind several of his works, including one in progress, in what promises to be a lively discussion.

And if you wish to see more of Alfred's work, you might visit *Rethinking Social Justice: Alfred Quiroz and Allison Miller* that opens Friday, February 19th, 4:30-6:30pm, at the Tucson International Airport East Terminal.

The exhibition continues through April 16th.

*44 Presidents and One is Hitler*, 2004  
watercolor, graphite on paper  
42" x 90"



## VIRTUAL WINTER EVENTS, continued

## HOME AND COLLECTION OF KATHY ILYIN

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 3:30-4:30PM

Kathy Ilyin has been collecting since she was in high school, where she took art classes and wood, metal, and auto shops. Majoring in science in college, Kathy is a nurse and a pilot. She has built and restored aircraft and automobiles; she built model radio controlled aircraft in the 80s. Her extraordinary skills account for her involvement with the National Air and Space Museum and the Orbis Flying Eye Hospital, an ophthalmic hospital and teaching facility located on board an MD-10 aircraft to bring training to doctors and nurses in developing countries with little access to professional advancement.

Kathy has collected art from Africa, Argentina, Japan, and Cuba and also has a wide collection of works from local artists, including Curt Brill, Maurice Seigny, Shirley Wagner, and many others. National and international artists in the collection include Ernest Trova and Victor Vasarely. Furnishings in the house reflect a mid-century vibe from Charles Eames, Milo Baughman, and Ludwig Mies van der Rohe.



Monica Romer  
Buenos Aires, Argentina  
*Cityscape*



Todd Kosharek  
Jackson Hole, Wyoming  
*Veneer*



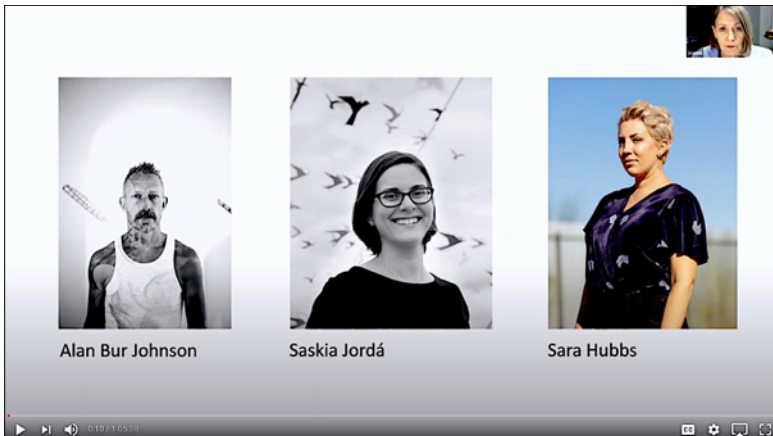
Carlton Bradford  
*Flatware*, 1994  
cast stainless steel

Tucson sculptor Carlton Bradford is represented by three works in Kathy's collection. Carlton, Associate Professor and Program Chair of 3D and Extended Media in the University of Arizona School of Art for over 18 years, will speak about his work.



## REVIEW OF VIRTUAL FALL EVENTS

### JULIE SASSE IN CONVERSATION WITH ARIZONA BIENNIAL 2020 ARTISTS Sunday, October 18, 3:30pm



The chosen artists, seen via Zoom on the left, discussed their processes and inspirations. Their interconnectedness revolves around home and family, presented through various materials and formats. Dr. Sasse asked pointed questions of the artists, each responding with sincerity and transparency. It was clear that the artists are grateful to call Arizona home, where Alan especially finds his Jerome environs an "endless inspiration."

### IN THE STUDIO WITH PHOENIX ARTIST PAPAY SOLOMON Sunday, November 15, 3:30pm



With TMA's Curator of Community Engagement Dr. Marianna Pegno hosting the interview, Papay Solomon discussed his beginnings as an artist through to his recent successes. (For example, his recent exhibition in a Boston gallery sold out!) His realist work features investigations into migration, culture and identity not unlike the work of October's Biennial artists. Definitely time to watch this rising star of the art world!

### CAS HOLIDAY PARTY THE HOME AND COLLECTION OF LEE & MARTIN KARPISCAK Sunday, December 13, 3:30pm



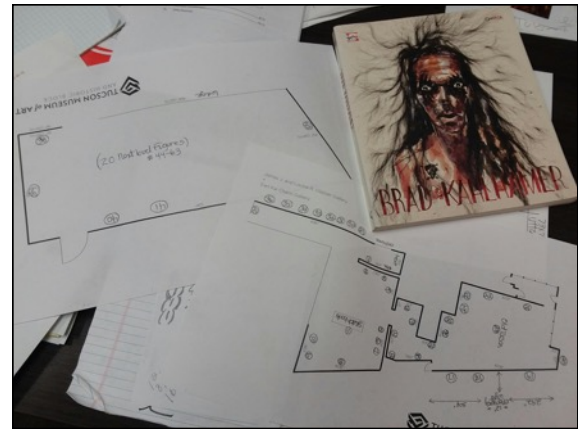
Through slides and videos, the couple talked about their collection of modern and contemporary art from the former Czechoslovakia, specifically Slovakia. Again the ideas of migration and identity feature in the work and lives of the many artists in their collection. The dichotomy between the lives of the older generation (no travel, no exhibitions) and the current generation (residing and exhibiting in Berlin, London, NY, etc.) emphasizes the struggle their homeland still faces.

## CURATOR'S CORNER

### The Agony and the Ecstasy: Formulating an Exhibition Checklist

Most people think that a curator's job is simply to pick the art that goes on view in the museum or into the permanent collection. While it might seem like one of the most glamorous aspects of the profession, it can sometimes be the most stressful, because a viewer's understanding of the artist and the art often depends on the selections that are made and how the work is contextualized. For a solo exhibition of new work, the process of creating a checklist can be rather simple, because choices are based on an artist's current output and available space to show it. And when a curator selects works for a permanent collection show, they often focus on interesting new juxtapositions or on works that have not had wide exposure. But no selections go without a certain amount of thorough research and planning because the works stay on view for months, if not years.

For the upcoming exhibition, *Brad Kahlhamer: 11:59 to Tucson*, opening in March of 2022, selections have become part of a treasure hunt to locate works in public institutions, private collections, commercial galleries, and of course, the artist's studio. At times like these, I wish I had paid more attention to math classes in high school or taken an accounting class in college. Before formally requesting a work of art from an owner, the curator must be sure that it is truly needed to tell the story, that there is room to display the work, and that the budget can accommodate the loan and its shipping. And once a piece is selected, a formal request with the justification for needing that special piece is written to the owner. Sometimes collectors and museums are reluctant to give up their art for long periods of time or they have already promised the art to another institution. At other times, the artist needs the work for another museum or gallery exhibition. Many of these selections must be done months or even years in advance. Oh, the agony of the quest!



Luckily, my search is coming together nicely for the Kahlhamer exhibition. As the Tucson Museum of Art continues to grow in acclaim, other institutions are happy to lend to us, and Kahlhamer has been very helpful in locating his best works for this special homecoming show. Kahlhamer was born in Tucson in 1956 and this will be his first solo exhibition in the city. So, my agony of finding the perfect works for this exhibition has turned to ecstasy as all the stars have aligned in my favor. Now to the agony and ecstasy of writing Kahlhamer's catalogue essay! I know you will all find this exhibition engaging and thought-provoking! Stay tuned!

Dr. Julie Sasse, Chief Curator

## MEMBERSHIP

### CAS BOARD 2020 - 2021

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 David Wohl, Treasurer

Dr. Julie Sasse, Chief Curator and  
 Staff Liaison

### 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, tours, workshops, and events that promote the study, discussion, and appreciation of contemporary art.

### NEW CAS MEMBERS SINCE THE FALL 2020 NEWSLETTER

Barbara Kemp Cowlin*	& James Cowlin	Dual/Family
Linda Gleitz*		Individual
Anh-Thuy Nguyen *		Individual
Dana*	& Paul Smith	Dual/Family

\* denotes artist



## TMA VIRTUAL GALA

CELEBRATE THE KASSER FAMILY WING OF LATIN AMERICAN ART

TMA GALA



MUSIC · ART · DINNER · AUCTION

SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

JOIN US FOR TMA'S SIGNATURE FUNDRAISER AND LIVE  
VIRTUAL CELEBRATION!

Online delivery through Zoom

\$125 single ticket (before Feb 1)

\$1200 Friends and Family Sponsor ("virtual" table of eight)

Sponsorships options available

Join us for TMA's first virtual gala! Enjoy an amazing TMA Gala from home celebrating the new Kasser Family Wing of Latin American Art with a silent auction, a virtual program highlighting art, music, dance, and culture from throughout Latin America and the Sonoran Desert region, and a delectable dinner with wine pairing. Latin American-inspired dinners by Café a la C'art are prepared to assemble, heat, and serve, and carefully paired with a bottle of wine (red or white). Meal pick-up and delivery options available for local attendees and determined two weeks from the event date.

*All single ticketholders and sponsor ticketholders/guests receive dinner and a bottle of wine, party favors, advance access to silent auction, and access to virtual celebration. Dinner, wine, and party favors are available to local attendees only. Sponsors are not obligated to host guests and each guest may pick up or arrange delivery of their meal, wine, and party favors. The event is virtual via Zoom, so sponsors may provide "tickets" to out-of-town guests to join in the silent auction and virtual celebration. All sponsors will have the opportunity to "see" their guests during a virtual happy hour thirty minutes before the event starts and then join all attendees for the hour-long program.*

Gala Webpage: <https://www.tucsonmuseumofart.org/gala/>Direct link to Tickets/Sponsor Form: <https://12194a.blackbaudhosting.com/12194a/TMA-GALA-20Mar2021-3>

## TMA EXHIBITIONS

## REMINDERS:

Please register for your next visit on the museum's website:  
<https://www.tucsonmuseumofart.org/tickets/>      THANK YOU!

SUNDAY, **JANUARY 10TH** IS THE LAST DAY TO VIEW  
*ARIZONA BIENNIAL 2020!*

THE WYETHS: THREE GENERATIONS | WORKS FROM  
THE BANK OF AMERICA COLLECTION  
JANUARY 21 – MAY 9, 2021

For three generations, the Wyeths have created art that captures the imagination and admiration of a wide audience. This exhibition presents more than sixty paintings, drawings, and illustrations by N.C. (Newell Convers) Wyeth, his son Andrew Wyeth, and his grandson Jamie Wyeth. The works—from the early 1900s to the early 2000s—reveal the breadth of the Wyeth family's creative output and illuminate both common themes within the works and each artist's individual styles.

This exhibition has been loaned through the Bank of America Art in our Communities® program.

The Wyeths: Three Generations | Works from the Bank of America Collection  
is presented by



The 2020-2021 Exhibition Season at TMA is presented by James and Louise Glasser. With support from the following season sponsors: Fran and Jim Allen, Alice and Paul Baker, Mary Jo Brown, Connie Hillman Family Foundation, I. Michael and Beth Kasser, Anne and Ed Lyman, Jeanne Pickering and Mike Andrew, TMA League, Contemporary Art Society, Latin American Art Patrons, and Western Art Patrons.

## UPCOMING LECTURES

**Save the date:****CURATOR TALK: SPOTLIGHT ON N.C. WYETH**

Thursday, February 4, 5-6 p.m.

*online delivery through Zoom*

Join Cristine Brindza, Senior Curator/Glasser Curator of Art of the American West, for a focused look at the work of N.C. Wyeth.

An Invitation from Latin American Art Patrons and Dr. Kristopher Driggers, TMA's Bernard and Jeanette Schmidt Curator of Latin American Art, to CAS members to attend two upcoming lectures (delivered via Zoom):

Sunday, February 28th, 2 p.m.: Lecture on Colonial Latin American Decorative Arts by art historian Catalina Ospina, a specialist in Mopa-Mopa, a technique of lacquer decoration that originated in ancient Colombia and continued to be used on high-status furnishings into the Colonial period.

Sunday, March 28th, 2 p.m.: Dr. Kristopher Driggers will speak about the new Schmidt Gallery of Latin American Folk Art. Highlights include new gifts of Ocumicho sculpture given to the permanent collection by Linda Caplan, gifts of Peruvian folk art from Bill and Cheryl Green, and works by artist Francisco Toledo loaned to TMA by Ronald Margolis.

CAS members may RSVP for these Zoom events by sending an email to [rkc39@hotmail.com](mailto:rkc39@hotmail.com)

My thanks to the CAS Newsletter Committee for this issue:  
David Andres, Mark Flynn, Regina Heitzer-Momaday, Pam Parry,  
Kate Phillips, Julie Sasse, Cita Scott, and Marvin Shaver.

*Lee Karpiscak*

CAS Newsletter Editor