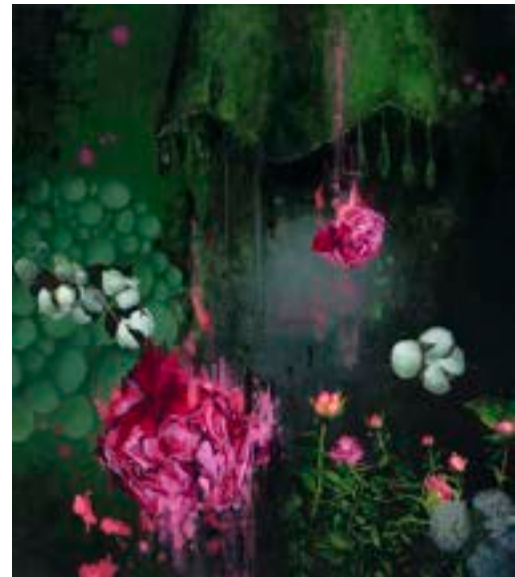




**TUCSON MUSEUM of ART**  
CONTEMPORARY ART SOCIETY

**Newsletter | Fall 2022**



## From The CAS President

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Dear CAS Members,

Welcome to the 2022-2023 Season of your Contemporary Art Society. The Board has designed a great schedule of events for this year and we hope to see all of you at one or more of these events. Included are a visit to the Amerind Museum presenting a unique exhibition, a number of visits to artists' studios, and events at the homes of two Tucson collectors. Our final event will revolve around *Arizona Biennial 2023*. TMA's Biennial is the oldest juried exhibition exclusively featuring Arizona artists. Watch for details in the newsletters and via the emailed flyers before each event.

A number of upcoming TMA exhibitions feature contemporary art as curated by Dr. Julie Sasse, Chief and Contemporary Art Curator. You'll read about the first of these on page 10 of this newsletter. CAS funds (your membership dues and donations) have been used to underwrite these exhibitions, so mentally add your name to the list when you see CAS as a supporter of these important shows.

We are very happy to add Carrie Seid as a new director on the CAS Board. Carrie has exhibited her art locally and nationally and has served on the faculties of UArizona, ASU, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and other institutions. Her BFA is from the Rhode Island School of Design and her MFA is from the Cranbrook Academy of Art in Michigan where she was a merit scholar. Carrie has participated in numerous Biennials at TMA and also received a "Purchase Award," bringing her work into TMA's permanent collection. Additionally, she is a coach and consultant with creative professionals through her coaching practice, Creative Catalyst Coaching. Carrie is most excited to join the board and is anticipating working together for the cultivation of the health and growth of TMA.

I look forward to seeing you all soon. Please reach out to me or any Board Director with questions or comments.

All the best,

Jeanne Pickering

CAS President

Jeanne4cas@gmail.com

## Upcoming CAS Events

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The Amerind Museum | October 16, 2022 | 1:30-4:00pm



Celebrate the opening of our 2022-2023 season by joining us at this interesting out-of-town cultural institution. Amerind seeks to foster and promote knowledge and understanding of the Native Peoples of the Americas through research, education, conservation, and community engagement. It is a museum, art gallery and research center dedicated to archaeology, Native culture and Western art.



Amerind is proud to exhibit a collaborative effort entitled *Raices (Roots)*. Sixteen artists from Raices Taller 222 Art Gallery & Workshop have combined their talent and vision for a new and visually stunning exhibition. In this deeply personal show, the artists were asked to contribute artworks inspired by their roots. The exhibit they have created is grounded in family and community. Included are paintings, sculptures, mixed media, prints, drawings and assemblage art.

In addition, CAS members will be treated to a performance of Northern style dancing by Kelvin Yazzie (Diné/Navajo).

Please note that there is an additional fee for this event. If you have not yet had the chance to sign up, [you may do so at this link.](#)

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Top image: Courtesy of the Amerind Foundation

Bottom image: Carmen Sonnes, *The Ancient Ones Speak*, acrylic on canvas, courtesy of Raices Taller 222 Art Gallery & Workshop

## Upcoming CAS Events

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Home and Collection of Laura Pendleton-Miller  
Tucson | November 13, 2022 | 3:30pm-5:30pm



Laura Pendleton-Miller is an art collector and financial advisor in Tucson. As AZ Illustrated stated, “She’s amassed an Impressive amount of regional work over the past 40 years...”

CAS will host an event at Laura’s home in the Mercado District on Sunday, November 13 at 3:30 PM.

Laura Pendleton-Miller writes that she “grew up in a household and a community in Central Pennsylvania where there was little access to fine

art.” Through friends for whom she babysat, she was first introduced to museums and galleries. While at Georgetown University, Laura formed a friendship with two women who ran a gallery. It was there that she bought her first original piece of art on a payment plan.

Laura’s many travels brought her to Santa Fe and Taos where she fell in love with the Southwestern landscape. Laura most recently has included works by Black artists such as Alanna Airtam, Willie Bonner and Allison Miller. Other contemporary artists include: Fred Borchardt, David Bradley, Jim Cook, Bailey Doogan, Allan Hauser, Bruce McGrew, Dan Namingha, Mark Rossi, and Jim Waid.

Come and celebrate with Laura and a number of artists in her collection.

Laura’s newest community adventure is forming “B.L.A.C.” gallery in downtown Tucson. B.L.A.C. will feature art by Black artists from throughout the United States.



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Top image: Allison Miller, *Givenchy Dressing Eartha Kitt*, 2019, oil, 50”x75”

Right image: Jim Waid, *Mayfly*, 2020, acrylic, 40”x60”

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## Upcoming CAS Events

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Holiday Party at the Home and Studio of Craig Cully and Kelly Leslie  
Tucson | December 18, 2022 | 3:30pm-5:30pm



CAS members will celebrate the holidays with Kelly Leslie and Craig Cully at their home and studio in Central Tucson.

Craig and Kelly both grew up in the suburbs of Philadelphia and received their BFA degrees from Temple University's Tyler School of Art. But they did not meet until attending graduate school at the University of Arizona School of Art where they both received their MFA degrees and where Kelly has been teaching since 2002. Her work as a designer has been featured in both national and international exhibitions and she specializes in working with clients committed to social justice. Kelly's fine art practice utilizes a wide range of media including embroidery, digital prints and drawing to produce poetic content that explores moments of reflection and possibility.

Craig has also held numerous teaching positions and is currently a professor of painting and drawing at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces. His work is part of the permanent collection of The Boise Museum of Art, The Tucson Museum of Art, The University of Arizona Museum of Art, among others. He is represented by Etherton Gallery in Tucson, AZ, and Projects Gallery in Miami, FL. Craig divides his time throughout the year living and working alongside his wife Kelly and their three silly basset hounds, Hildegard, Gertrude and Agatha, in both Tucson and Las Cruces.

Both artists will exhibit collaborative artwork that they started over COVID. As Craig writes, "Shared personal objects of significance suspended in amorphous spaces evoke an atmosphere of reverence and bereavement—a paradigm of existence that recognizes the simultaneity of cherished love and the inevitable loss that is intrinsic to a life shared."



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Upper image: Craig Cully and Kelly Leslie, *Cast Adrift*, oil on panel, 48"x48"

Lower image: Kelly Leslie and Craig Cully

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## Upcoming CAS Travel

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### Mark Your Calendar

The CAS bus trip to Phoenix is scheduled for Saturday, January 14. And CAS will explore the contemporary art scene in Minneapolis in late May 2023. Keep an eye on your email for details and registration information for both trips that will be forthcoming later this fall.

## 2022-2023 CAS Events Calendar At a Glance

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<b>10/16/22 - 1:30-4:00pm</b>	Trip to Amerind Foundation, Dragoon, AZ to view <i>Raices (Roots)</i> exhibit featuring works by Cristina Cardenas, Chris Chandler, David Contreras, Juan Enriquez, Ceci Garcia, Carolyn King, Lydia Maldonado, David Moreno, Clay Morgan, Alfred Quiroz, Luis Rodriguez, Rachael Running, John Salgado, Carmen Sonnes, Glory Tacheenie-Campoy, and George Welch
<b>11/13/22 - 3:30-5:30pm</b>	Visit home and collection of Laura Pendleton-Miller, Tucson
<b>12/18/22 - 3:30-5:30pm</b>	Visit Tucson studios of Craig Cully, painter and New Mexico State University Professor, and Kelly Leslie, artist/designer and University of Arizona School of Art Assistant Professor of Design
<b>1/14/23 - time TBA</b>	Bus trip to Phoenix
<b>1/29/23 - 2:00-5:00pm</b>	Visit the Tucson studios of Nicole Antebi, Sama Alshaibi, Julia Arriola, Cristina Cardenas, Aaron Coleman, David Contreras, Ceci Garcia, Nazafarin Lotfi, Alejandro Macias, Nathan Redwood, and Kelvin Yazzie
<b>2/19/23 - 3:30-5:30pm</b>	Visit the new Tucson studio of Barbara Grygutis, public sculpture artist
<b>3/26/23 - 3:30-5:30pm</b>	Patrons and Benefactors Party at the home and collection of Susan Berger and Robert Lanier, Tucson
<b>4/16/23 - 3:30-5:30pm</b>	<i>Arizona Biennial 2023</i> : Discussion in TMA Stonewall Room and reception in the Larkin Patio ( <i>Arizona Biennial 2023</i> opens on April 1, 2023)



### Dealing with the Uncomfortable

Now that we are finally seeing the world open up after Covid took over so many of our travel and other plans, I think most of us were hoping things would go back to normal since it seems like we lost two years or more during lockdown. Many of us have had to face the sobering reality that we are aging, and our isolation did not suspend time—it marched on. For example, we lost our dear Tucson artist Bailey Doogan in recent months, one of the most beloved artists in Arizona, and Sheila Pitt, another longtime art professor at the University of Arizona. I recently found out about the dementia that has claimed another dear artist friend from the Southwest and dealing with his belongings is a monumental task. Lest I go down the rabbit hole of dark thoughts about the inevitability of aging, I write to remind us all to start early in preparing for what we want to do with our art collections, and for artists, your own art that you have created. Jokingly, I have told my family not to dismiss what they find to be the most objectionable in my collection—those works are probably the most valuable.

This is not an invitation for you to offer your art collections to the museum, rather, to encourage you to alleviate the burden often left to family members. I suggest you take the time now to list what art is in your collection and attach a photograph of it and indicate where it could potentially go—to auction, a charity, a museum, or a family member. I recently did that for my family, who would be overwhelmed with “what to do with all that stuff.” I get at least one call a week from desperate family members, estate agents, executors, and others who hope I will accept an offer to the museum within one day. Or they demand I come to see the works in an estate immediately, perhaps even to load up work in my own car so they can clear a house for sale. Many such works have no available provenance, no titles, dates, or other information. This often leaves curators to make swift decisions without time to adequately research the art. Such expectations cannot be sustained over the long term, especially when the museum has strict policies about working with a Collections Committee and ultimately the Board of Trustees that make the final decisions about such offers on a quarterly basis.

### Dealing with the Uncomfortable (Continued)

Know in advance if the places you hope your collections will end up in are able or interested in taking them. Create a notebook that includes invoices if you have them, lists, appraisals, images, articles and exhibition notices, or other materials that document who the artist(s) are. Hopefully, you will have saved digital images of the works and other materials for a backup and to send through emails. For artists, if you are prolific, start to donate to charities when possible, but at least sign your work, label and date your images, and create checklists of your holdings. These things will make those who survive you so appreciative that it is not left to them to figure it out—many of whom may know nothing about art, how to care for it, and how to sell or donate it. I am dealing with at least two such situations now, and it's heartbreaking to see them struggle to do right by their parents or others when they know there is great value in such objects. It's no fun, but it's necessary work—be your own Monuments Men and Women—save these great works of art by caring for them and their future. Your family will be grateful.

Julie Sasse, Ph.D.

Chief Curator

Tucson Museum of Art

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On the following page, you will find a sample collection worksheet to support the documentation of works of art in your collection. Please feel free to print this page, or use this as a starting point for creating your own template. [A digital version can be downloaded at this link](#), or you can email [benjohnsonart@gmail.com](mailto:benjohnsonart@gmail.com) to have it sent to you as an emailed attachment.

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# COLLECTION WORKSHEET

ID #:	LOCATION:	
ARTIST:		
TITLE:		
DESCRIPTION:		
ARTWORK HEIGHT (IN):	ARTWORK WIDTH (IN):	ARTWORK DEPTH (IN):
FRAME/BASE HEIGHT (IN):	FRAME/BASE WIDTH (IN):	FRAME/BASE DEPTH (IN):
COUNTRY:		YEAR CREATED:
MEDIUM:		
SUPPORT:		
SIGNATURE(S):		
REMARKS:		
VALUATION:		CONDITION:
IMAGE(S):		

## Modern and Contemporary Art Exhibitions at TMA

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Above: Frances Murray, *Pear and Space*, Gelatin silver print, 32.25" x 28.25", 1999, Gift of the artist

Below: Monica Aissa Martinez in the studio

### Frances Murray and Harold Jones: *Simpatico*

**August 11, 2022 – August 6, 2023**

Curated by Dr. Julie Sasse

This exhibition debuts a significant gift of photographs by Frances Murray (b. 1947, Ireland) and Harold Jones (b. 1940, United States) to the Tucson Museum of Art. Murray is an award-winning fine art photographer who captures surreal still lifes, sensual figures bathed in natural light, and elegant botanical studies in black and white and in color. Jones is the founding director of the University of Arizona's Center for Creative Photography (1975) and established the photography program at the University of Arizona where he taught for over thirty years. Murray and Jones were among the new wave of photographers active in Tucson in the 1970s. Together, they contributed greatly to the photographic arts in the region.



### Monica Aissa Martinez: *Nothing in Stasis*

**September 1, 2022 – April 23, 2023**

Curated by Dr. Julie Sasse

Interested in the intricacies of the physical body, Phoenix-based artist Monica Aissa Martinez (b. 1962, Texas) uses line, shape, space, and color to represent the complex connections between body, mind, and spirit. Martinez is drawn to the language of myth and symbol, feminine and masculine, emotion and logic, circle and line, and horizontal (heavens and spirit) and vertical (earth and body), finding beauty in the systems and organization of living things. Inspired by the works of Leonardo da Vinci, Martinez focuses on the bodies of animals, insects, family, and friends to tell a greater story of the interconnectivity of all living things.

## More Than: Expanding Artist Identities from the American West

**October 15, 2022 – March 19, 2023**

Curated by Christine Brindza

This exhibition focuses on works of art created in the American West, the U.S. Southwest border, and parts of Canada, viewing how artists embrace various parts of themselves and incorporate these identities into their works of art. This exhibition explores how works of art speak for the ways artists assume multiple roles, serving not only as creators of artwork, but as partners, caregivers, community members, storytellers, knowledge bearers, activists, immigrants, and countless positions not always evident. In addition, examples of historic works are included in conversation with contemporary art to broaden how art of the American West is viewed and understood, provide ways to make meaningful connections, link the past and present, and draw comparisons between artists' ideas, styles, and motifs.



Above: Michael Chiago, *Still Life with Basket and Pottery*, 1982, acrylic on canvas. Collection of the Tucson Museum of Art. Gift of James T. Bialac.

Below: Garo Antreasian, *Shield*, 1965, lithograph, 102/210. Collection of the Tucson Museum of Art. Gift from the Donald L. Graf and Julia B. Graf Revocable Living Trust.

## New Mexico Moderns: Selections from the Donald L. and Julia B. Graf Collection

**October 15, 2022 – March 19, 2023**

Curated by Dr. Julie Sasse

*New Mexico Moderns* features a selection of paintings from the Donald L. and Julia B. Graf Collection. Modernism in New Mexico centers around Taos, Santa Fe, and Albuquerque from the beginning of the twentieth century until the early 1970s. A recent gift to TMA, these works represent an artistic era marked by abstraction, experimentation, and inspiration from the light, land, and cultures of New Mexico. Artists include Louis Ribak, Beatrice Mandelman, Janet Lippincott, Andrew Dasburg, Earl Stroh, and Emil Bisttram.



# TMA Fall Events at a Glance



October 14 at 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

## Member Preview – *More Than: Expanding Artist Identities from the American West*

Tucson Museum of Art and Historic Block,  
140 North Main Avenue, Tucson, AZ



October 15 at 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

## Leadership Circle Lecture Series: Exploring Identities and Creative Practices in *More Than: Expanding Artist Identities from the American West*

Tucson Museum of Art and Historic Block,  
140 North Main Avenue, Tucson, AZ



October 28 at 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

## Howl at the Museum

Tucson Museum of Art and Historic Block,  
140 North Main Avenue, Tucson, AZ



November 3 at 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

## The Critical Eye: Curators in Conversation In conjunction with the jurying of *Arizona Biennial 2023*

Tucson Museum of Art and Historic Block,  
140 North Main Avenue, Tucson, AZ

## TMA Fall Events at a Glance

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November 4 at 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm (Member Opening)

November 5 at 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

November 6 at 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

### Treasure House

3302 E. Speedway, Tucson

November 10 at 10:30 am - 11:30 am

### Curator Tour – *More Than: Expanding Artist Identities from the American West*

Tucson Museum of Art and Historic Block

140 North Main Avenue, Tucson, AZ



November 18 at 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

November 19 at 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

November 20 at 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

### Fall Artisans Market

Tucson Museum of Art and Historic Block

140 North Main Avenue, Tucson, AZ

December 2 at 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

### Curator Tour – *More Than: Expanding Artist Identities from the American West*

Tucson Museum of Art and Historic Block

140 North Main Avenue, Tucson, AZ

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For more events and information, please visit the [Tucson Museum Of Art website](https://www.tucsonmuseumofart.org)

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## Recent CAS Events

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Patrons and Benefactors party at the home of Jim and Fran Allen | April 10, 2022



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Annual meeting and Rotraut exhibition at Sculpture Tucson | May 15, 2022



## Membership

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### Be Sure That Your Membership is Current

A great CAS events season is beginning, so please be sure to renew your membership for this membership year (July 2022-June 2023), if you haven't already. Members who had not yet renewed as of the first week of September were sent an email renewal reminder at that time. If you received that email and still have not renewed, you can [renew online at this link](#). Renew now, or by phone by calling Isai Pacheco at the TMA Membership Office at 520-616-2699.

Please remember that a current TMA membership is a condition of CAS membership. If you are unsure about the status of your TMA membership, TMA's Membership Office can assist you at the above phone number. If you have questions about your CAS membership, please contact me at [cas.membership.tma@gmail.com](mailto:cas.membership.tma@gmail.com).

Thank you for continuing to support CAS and contemporary art at TMA, and I look forward to seeing you at this season's events.

Mark Flynn  
CAS Membership Chair

#### Welcome to our newest CAS Members!

Julia Arriola\*  
Zalman Berkowitz\*  
Marianne Bernsen\*  
Anne Gagnon  
Joshua & Heidi King  
Isabel Orozco-Augiano\*  
Britten Traugher\*

(\* denotes artist)



#### Welcome to our newest CAS Board Member, Carrie Seid!

Carrie was introduced at the CAS annual meeting in May, and we welcome her as the new season officially begins!

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## CAS BOARD 2022— 2023

Rameen Ahmed  
David Andres  
Candice Davis, Secretary  
Mark Flynn  
Maira Geoffrion  
Jim Glasser  
Regina Heitzer-Momaday  
Benjamin M Johnson  
Robyn Kessler  
Pam Parry  
Jeanne Pickering, President  
Cita Scott  
Carrie Seid  
Marvin Shaver  
Glory Tacheenie-Campoy  
David Wohl, Vice President and 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.

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## From the Editor

I'd like to take a moment to thank Lee Karpiscak and all of the previous CAS Newsletter Editors for their years of hard work assembling this newsletter and sharing all of the exciting things that the CAS Board has planned for you, season after season. I'm happy to be continuing that work with the invaluable help of the CAS Newsletter Committee: David Andres, Mark Flynn, Regina Heitzer-Momaday, Pam Parry, Jeanne Pickering, Julie Sasse, Cita Scott, and Marvin Shaver. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact me at [benjohnsonart@gmail.com](mailto:benjohnsonart@gmail.com). And thank you for your CAS membership which makes all of this possible!

Benjamin M Johnson  
CAS Newsletter Editor





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**Cover Images:**

Left: Ceci Garcia, *Madre Del Desierto*, courtesy of Raices Taller 222 Art Gallery & Workshop

Middle: Willie Bonner, *Behold the Lamb of God*, 2020, acrylic and oil on canvas, 24"x24", from the collection of Laura Pendleton-Miller

Right: Craig Cully and Kelly Leslie, *Evening Reach*, oil on panel, 28"x24"

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