



**TUCSON MUSEUM of ART**  
CONTEMPORARY ART SOCIETY

**Newsletter | Winter 2023**



# TMA Gala

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On the Western Horizon | Saturday, March 18, 2023



On the Western Horizon celebrates the art of the American West—past, present, and future. Experience an elegant evening under the stars mingling with friends, bidding on art and adventures, savoring the excellent cuisine of Café a la C’Art, and enjoying melodic music of the Western range. To purchase tickets, click on the link below and be sure to indicate you wish to sit at the CAS table.

The Gala will again be held at TMA with cocktail hour on the East Plaza and the program, Live Auction, and dinner in the Bonnie L. Bradford Courtyard. An Online Auction with more than 100 items will be available to all museum members and to the public so there is a broader audience who can bid on the artwork and other items! The Gala is the museum’s biggest annual fundraising event to support TMA, including educational initiatives and community outreach. This year’s event Co-Chairs are Denise Grusin, Marilyn Joyce, and John McNulty; Honorary Chairs are Jeffrey and Anne Gartner. As the largest Support Organization, CAS has always made a great showing by coming together in large numbers at a fun Gala table. Let’s do it again! Tickets are \$275 before February 3, then \$300.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available. For more information, contact Cami Cotton at (520) 616-2689 or [ccotton@tucsonmuseumofart.org](mailto:ccotton@tucsonmuseumofart.org).

[Purchase Tickets Here](#)

# Upcoming CAS Events

## Tucson Artists' Studio Visits | January 29, 2023 | 3-5:00pm

CAS is starting the new year with the opportunity to visit a selection of local Tucson artists in their studios. These are studios that can't accommodate large groups, so we have created special, smaller, timed visits for 10 to 15 members at a time. The artists will talk briefly about their work, will be happy to answer questions, and will talk one on one with members. In some cases, artists will do short demonstrations of their processes.

CAS members will be invited to select their preference from the artist studio groups detailed below, and then will be assigned a group based on fair distribution and location considerations. All studios are easy to get to within Tucson by car. Some have stairs or ramps to enter the studio, so when you respond to the emailed invitation, please let us know if you have any accessibility considerations, so that we can pair you with the most accessible spaces. We will also ask anyone with dietary considerations to please let us know, as each studio visitor will receive a snack and a drink to have with them during the visits. An emailed invitation will have more details and specific instructions about submitting your studio visit preference.

**STUDIO GROUP A**  
Sama Alshaibi, Nazafarin Lotfi, and Nicole Antebi (left to right)  
Some driving is required between studios



# Upcoming CAS Events

Tucson Artists' Studio Visits | January 29, 2023 | 3-5:00pm

## STUDIO GROUP B

Julia Arriola, Kelvin Yazzie and David Contreras (clockwise from top left)  
Some driving is required between studios



## STUDIO GROUP C

Cristina Cardenas and Alejandro Macias (left to right)  
Some driving is required between studios





# Upcoming CAS Events

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Tucson Artists' Studio Visits | January 29, 2023 | 3-5:00pm

## STUDIO GROUP D

Juan Enriquez, Ceci Garcia, (top row, left to right)  
Clay Morgan, Carmen Sonnes and Carolyn King (bottom row, left to right)



Look in your email inbox for an invitation coming soon which will have more details and specific instructions about submitting your studio visit preferences.

## Upcoming CAS Events

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Studio of Barbara Grygutis | Tucson | February 19, 2023 | 3:30pm-5:30pm

CAS will visit Barbara Grygutis's new studio space on Sunday, February 19th from 3:30 to 5:30 PM. Barbara is a Tucson-based artist who creates public installations on local, national, and international sites. Ms. Grygutis's work helps construct community by making visible community values and cultural identity. She has received over 75 commissions to design and construct large-scale public artworks across North America in both urban and natural landscapes. One such work, in Lexington, KY, *Stand*, a 19th Amendment Historic Commemorative sculpture with lighting (2019), is the first public art in Lexington honoring women. Of the over 5,000 monuments in the United States less than 7% are of women. Grygutis was selected from 127 applicants nationwide. Her works are also found internationally.



Barbara Grygutis's studio

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Barbara Grygutis in her studio

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In highlighting some of her achievements, Barbara Grygutis was awarded a MASTERworks Honorable Mention for her work, *Bronx River View*, a sculptural installation at Whitlock Station, MTA, New York City (2011); the John D. Spellman Award for Exemplary Achievement in Historic Preservation, South Park Bridge, Seattle, WA (2015), and 2nd place in the International Quadrennial Competition in Faenza, Italy.

## Upcoming CAS Events

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Studio of Barbara Grygutis | Tucson | February 19, 2023 | 3:30pm-5:30pm

Barbara Grygutis's public artworks in their outdoor settings allow viewers, from the art lover to the passer-by, to continue during the time of Covid to interact and connect with compelling representations that encourage deep thinking, discourse, and optimism.

Grygutis has said of her work, "I've always used art to express important messages and to help bring people together. I'm grateful that my art aligns with, and serves to represent, powerful experiences, messages, and events around the country and throughout history."

*Portal* was created for the Open Space Exhibition in Venice, Italy. Grygutis's website states this work "presents a gateway to the human mind and offers an



Barbara Grygutis, *Bronx River View*, 2010, Stainless Steel

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Barbara Grygutis, *Portal*, 2020, Aluminum integrated light

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exploration of an architectural element as a sculpture expression."

Join your fellow CAS members and meet with Barbara in her studio this February. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about her inspiring work and her artistic process.



## Upcoming CAS Events

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### Patrons and Benefactors Party at the Home and Collection of Susan Berger and Robert Lanier | Tucson | March 26, 2023 | 3:30pm-5:30pm

CAS will host the 2023 Patrons and Benefactors Party this year at the beautiful art-filled home of Susan Berger and Robert Lanier on March 26 from 3:30 to 5:30 PM.

Susan Berger and Robert Lanier are both photographers. In fact, they met at a photography workshop at Anderson Ranch in Snowmass, CO. And they are both avid collectors of contemporary art. When they met, Susan was living in Chicago and was a partner in a CPA firm. She's confident that their firm was the only one in Chicago that had a darkroom attached.



At the home of Susan Berger and Robert Lanier

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Edward Weston, *Cabbage Leaf*, 1931, gelatin silver print

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Through her clients, she met some important artists and collectors who encouraged her collecting. Robert was living in the Charleston, South Carolina area, but he soon moved to Savannah where he returned to school at the Savannah College of Art and Design, and received a BFA in Photography. He met some wonderful artists there who also encouraged his collecting. While Robert was at SCAD, Susan was taking evening classes in photography at Columbia College Chicago. After a five-year long-distance relationship, they finally joined households in Tucson and combined their separate collections, to which they continue to add.



## Upcoming CAS Events

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### Patrons and Benefactors Party at the Home and Collection of Susan Berger and Robert Lanier | Tucson | March 26, 2023 | 3:30pm-5:30pm

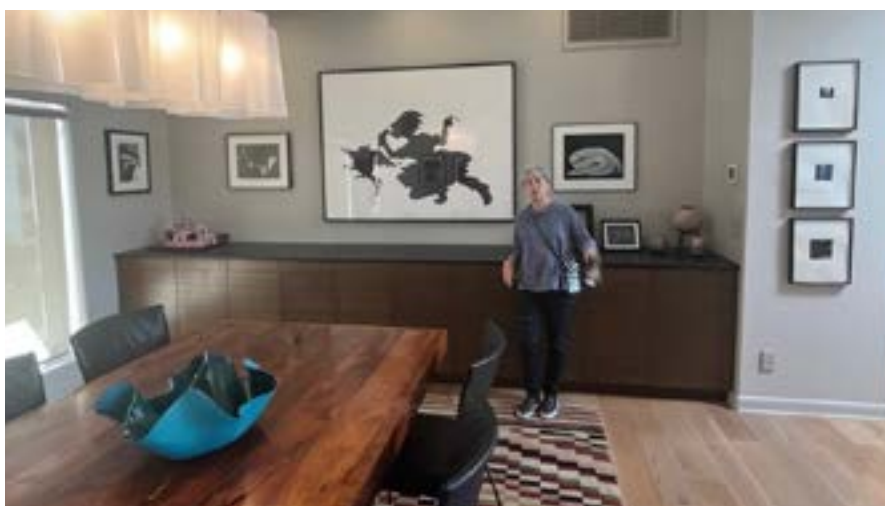
Both Susan and Robert were invited to present solo exhibitions in China at the China International Photography Exhibition. The work Susan exhibited was the result of a Project Grant she received from the Arizona Commission on the Arts. Both of their works are in the permanent collection of the Lishui Photography Museum in Lishui, China. And both have exhibited their work widely. Their work is quite different from each other's. Robert works with digital cameras, producing beautiful color photographs. He's currently photographing the skies and lightning. Susan is still using film and making silver gelatin prints in her darkroom.



At the home of Susan Berger and Robert Lanier

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In addition to the Lishui Museum, Susan's work is in the permanent collections of the MFA Houston, The Cleveland Museum of Art, the Southeast Museum of Photography, and the McEvoy Foundation, as well as private collections. A monograph of her work was published in 2019.



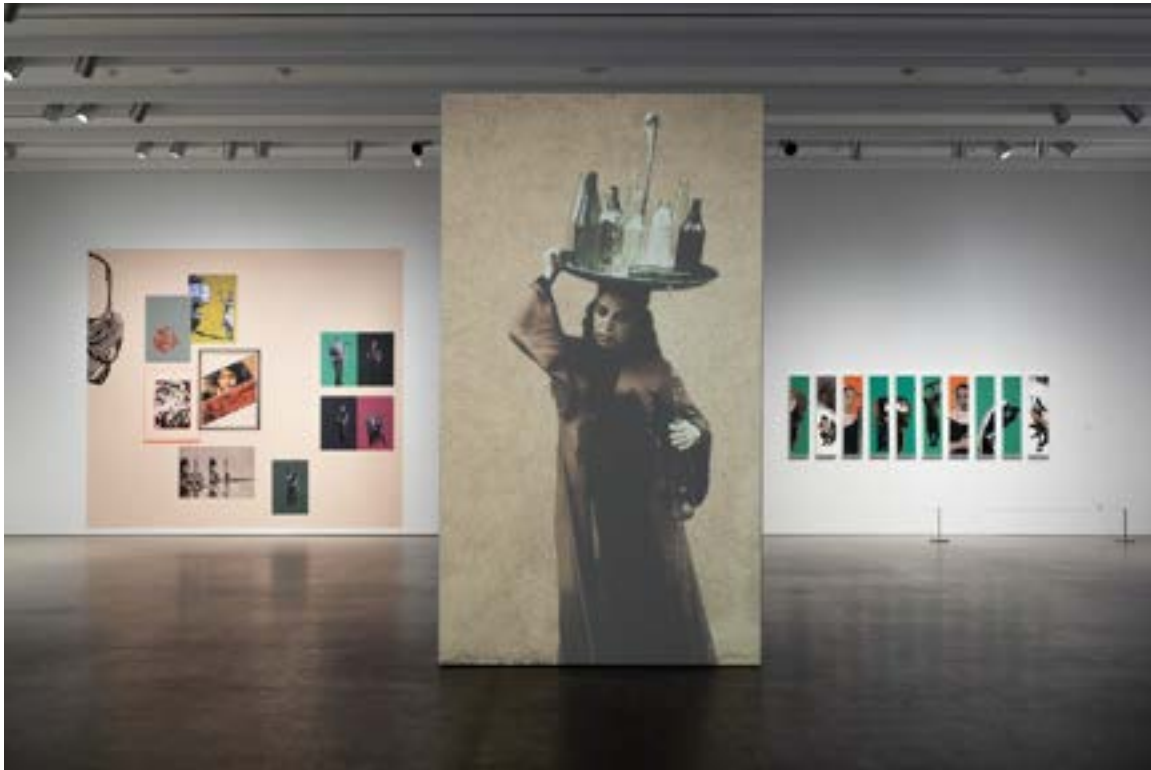
Susan Berger with collection including work by Kara Walker

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The many contemporary artists included in their collection are Lesley Dill, Kara Walker, Picasso, Kenneth Josephen, Christo, Edward Weston, William Christenberry, Joel-Peter Witkin, Melaine Walker. Local artists include Frank Gohlke, Kate Breakey, Mark Klett, Byron Wolfe, Ernesto Esquer, and Anh-Thuy Nguyen.

## Upcoming CAS Travel

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Installation view, Sama Alshaibi: *Generation After Generation*, 2022, Phoenix Art Museum

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## PHOENIX BUS TRIP

There are still some spaces available on the CAS day trip to Phoenix on Saturday, January 14. We will be visiting a private collection, two artists' studios, and the Phoenix Art Museum, so it should be a full and fun day. Registration includes bus transportation, lunch, and museum admission. We will leave Tucson at 8 a.m. and should return by 7 p.m. Please see the flyer on the next page for more information and the registration link. If you need any help with registration, please contact Isai Pacheco at TMA at 520-616-2699.

## MEXICO CITY 2024

Mark your calendars for the 2024 CAS trip to Mexico City. We will be traveling February 6-11 to coincide with Zona Maco, Mexico City's major art fair. More information will be coming to your email inbox this spring.

## *Day Trip to Phoenix & Scottsdale*

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*Saturday, January 14, 2023*

*The bus will leave the Tucson Museum of Art upper parking lot **PROMPTLY** at 8:00 AM (please park in lower lot)*

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Join TMA Chief Curator Dr. Julie Sasse and members of CAS for a fun and informative trip to the Phoenix area. The highlights include:

- Experience the home & collection of Mark & Betsy Kogan in North Scottsdale
  - Visit the studio of interdisciplinary artist Saskia Jordá
  - Enjoy a buffet lunch at Aunt Chilada's (included in trip price)
  - Visit the studio of photographer and performance artist Liz Cohen
- End the day exploring *Sama Alshaihi: Generation after Generation and the 2021 Lehmann Emerging Artist Awards, And Let It Remain So: Women of the African Diaspora*, and other exhibitions at the Phoenix Art Museum



Detailed itineraries will be sent to everyone who signs up.

**Only 50 spaces are available, so sign up early and reserve your seat!**

**You will need a TMA account established in order to register online.**

For only \$110, you receive transportation both to and from TMA, lunch at Aunt Chilada's, Phoenix Art Museum admission, snacks & drinks on the bus.

The value of the benefits and services you receive is \$110.

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*Contemporary Art Society Trip to Phoenix & Scottsdale, January 14, 2023*

*PLEASE register online at*

<https://12194a.blackbaudhosting.com/12194a/CAS---Phoenix-Trip>

Contact Pam Parry at [pamparry@gmail.com](mailto:pamparry@gmail.com) or 520-404-4679 with any questions.





### NEW DONATIONS TO THE COLLECTION

The Collections Committee met in September and December of 2022 to review donations to the Tucson Museum of Art collection, and several were stellar contemporary works. Among the accepted works are lithographs by Kiki Smith, Elizabeth Murray, Alexander Calder, and Georges Braque; a glass sculpture by Tom Philabaum; etchings by Tony Fitzpatrick, Joe Goode, Lynn Schroeder, and Liliana Porter; works on paper by Julia Arriola, Sheila Pitt, and Guadalupe Hernandez;

photographs by Frances Murray, Liz Cohen, Benjamin Timpson, and Oscar Bony; a mixed media work by Patrick Martinez; and paintings by Jesús Treviño, Tony Abeyta (Diné), and Tina Mion. As always, the museum extends its heartfelt gratitude to all the donors of art and those who provided funds to purchase art.

To select standouts in this season's donations would be to include each artist that is now represented in the TMA collection, and the quality of donations continues to grow as the collection improves in scope, diversity, and prominence. One thing that makes this group of contemporary works interesting is that several were identified and procured by Assistant Curator of Latin American Art Kristopher Driggers and Senior Curator of Art of the American West Christine Brindza in addition to me. These new works reveal a deep investment in contemporary art across curatorial divides and expand opportunities to investigate links between past and present and between different artistic sources within various collecting disciplines. Brindza, Driggers, and I are now working as a team to prepare for the 2024 Centennial exhibition, *Time Travelers: Foundations, Transformations, and Expansions*, at the Centennial, scheduled for spring of 2024.

Julie Sasse

Chief Curator and Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art

### NEW DONATIONS TO THE COLLECTION



Liz Cohen, *Lowrider Builder and Child*, 2012, c-print, ed. 5/5, Collection of Tucson Museum of Art with funds provided by anonymous donor

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Benjamin Timpson, *Rita Smith*, 2021, Pigment inkjet, Museum purchase: Funds provided by James and Louise Glasser in honor of Jeremy Mikolajczak

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# 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

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## 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.

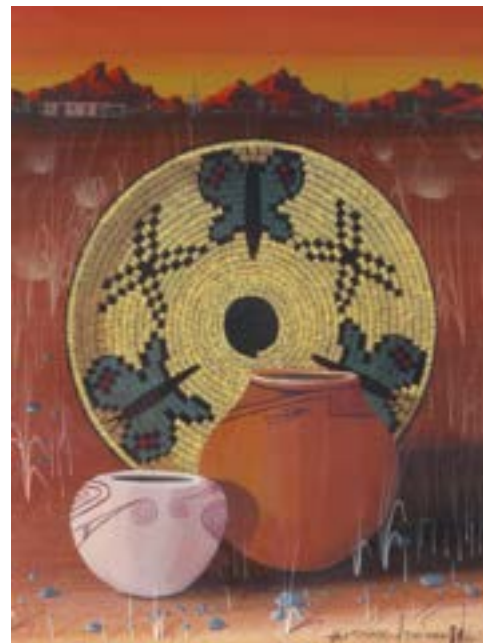


## More Than: Expanding Artist Identities from the American West

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.



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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.

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## 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.



# Modern and Contemporary Art Exhibitions at TMA

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Above: David Bradley (b. 1954), Chippewa, *Another Minnesota Folk Legend*, 1987, oil on canvas. Collection of the Tucson Museum of Art. Gift of James T. Bialac.

Below: Installation view of Arizona Biennial 2020. Artwork: Mary Meyer, *Biophilia (Seeds)*, 2019. Photo by Julius Schlosburg.



## Enduring Legacies: The James T. Bialac Indigenous Art Collection

**February 2, 2023 – February 25, 2024**

Curated by Christine Brindza

*Enduring Legacies: The James T. Bialac Indigenous Art Collection* presents an expansive array of contemporary Indigenous art featuring late 20th to early 21st century paintings and works on paper. Donated to the TMA collection by Arizona collector James T. Bialac, this exhibition celebrates his lifelong passion to collect Indigenous works of art, befriend and support artists, play a role in nurturing creativity, and help sustain Indigenous artistic traditions. *Enduring Legacies* includes representation from Arizona, the Southwest, and the greater American West, providing a glimpse into the cultures, histories, artistic styles, and experiences of contemporary Indigenous artists.

## Arizona Biennial 2023

**April 1, 2023 – September 17, 2023**

Guest Juror: Taína Caragol, Ph.D.

Taína Caragol is Curator of Painting and Sculpture & Latinx Art and History at the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C.

First organized in 1948, the *Arizona Biennial* is a juried exhibition that showcases some of the most innovative and diverse new works being created in the state. For emerging artists, this exhibition often provides an opportunity to exhibit their art in a museum setting or to introduce their work to the public for the first time. Museum visitors are also exposed to works by established artists with statewide, national, and international reputations. For each biennial, a new juror from outside the state is selected to review the works of hundreds of artists and create a cohesive exhibition that becomes an overview of artistic creativity in Arizona.

## Recent CAS Events

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RAICES (ROOTS) EXHIBITION  
AT THE AMERIND MUSEUM  
October 16, 2022



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HOME AND COLLECTION OF LAURA  
PENDLETON-MILLER  
November 13, 2022





## Recent CAS Events

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HOLIDAY PARTY AT THE HOME  
AND STUDIO OF CRAIG CULLY  
AND KELLY LESLIE

Tucson | December 18, 2022



### Greetings from the Hospitality Committee!

Now that CAS events are being held in person again, we've put our aprons on to embellish this year's diverse line-up of art events. We'd like to thank general CAS members and board members who've helped with set-up and contributed food. It's impressive how much work goes on behind the scenes for different aspects of each event—and fun! Please let us know if you'd like to join us; we'd love to welcome you to our team!

Here's to an art-filled 2023,

Cita ([citascott@me.com](mailto:citascott@me.com)) and Moira ([moiramg@msn.com](mailto:moiramg@msn.com))

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## CAS BOARD 2022— 2023

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Regina Heitzer-Momaday  
Benjamin M Johnson  
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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.

## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST CAS MEMBERS!

David Adix\*  
Susan Duvall  
Ernesto Esquer\*  
Carolyn Fisch\*

Dan & Kit Kimball  
Tim Schiffer\* & John Cameron  
Dee\* and Ted Ruff

(\* denotes artist)



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**Cover Images:**

**Left:** Barbara Grygutis's studio

**Middle:** The work of Tucson Artists including: Sama Alshaibi, Nicole Antebi, Julia Arriola, Cristina Cardenas, David Contreras, Juan Enriquez, Ceci Garcia, Carolyn King, Nazafarin Lotfi, Alejandro Macias, Clay Morgan, Carmen Sonnes, and Kelvin Yazzie

**Right:** At the home of Susan Berger and Robert Lanier

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