



TUCSON MUSEUM *of* ART

CONTEMPORARY ART SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER | FALL 2023



TUCSON MUSEUM *of* ART
AND HISTORIC BLOCK

A Message from the CAS President



Dear CAS Members:

I'm delighted to welcome you to the 2023-2024 Season of the Contemporary Art Society and the Centennial Year of the Tucson Museum of Art. The CAS Board has planned a diverse series of events through the season, starting on October 22 with a visit to the studio of our good friend and former CAS President David Andres at the Process Museum.

Modern and Contemporary Art have long been essential to TMA's collection, and CAS has played a large role through our member-funded purchases over the years. Our most recent additions to the collection are a cycle of photographs by Mohawk artist Shelley Niro and a gorgeous weaving by Tucson's own Claire Campbell Park. You should see these, as well as other works your dues and contributions have enabled us to purchase, over the coming TMA season.

We are excited to welcome five new Board members this season: Bonnie Bradford, Albert Kogel, Alejandro Macias, Christina McNearney, and Louise Glasser. As many of you know, TMA and CAS lost a stalwart supporter and friend this year, Jim Glasser, but we are grateful to Louise for continuing Jim's service to CAS and the Museum by joining us on the Board. We look forward to the opportunity for you to get to know all the members of the Board at our events through next spring.

CAS sponsors one major trip nearly every season, generally alternating between domestic and international destinations. I'm particularly excited about this season's coming visit to Mexico City, for which demand was so great that there will be two trips, the first of which includes a visit to Zona Maco Arte Contemporáneo, Latin America's leading contemporary art fair. Travelers on both trips will enjoy visits to galleries, studios, and private collections.

As I start on my tenure as President of the Board, I want to pay tribute to my indefatigable predecessor, Jeanne Pickering, whose dedication, hard work, and enthusiasm set a very high standard. Fortunately, Jeanne isn't going far – in fact, we are swapping roles, as she takes over as Treasurer, the position I held for many years.

After a summer spent looking at wonderful art in a variety of locations, I'm looking forward to focusing on contemporary art in southern Arizona and to meeting you all in the season ahead. If you have any questions about CAS, please don't hesitate to contact me at:

davidrwohl@gmail.com.

David Wohl
CAS President

Upcoming CAS Event

STUDIO OF DAVID ANDRES AT THE PROCESS MUSEUM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2023

3.30 - 5 PM

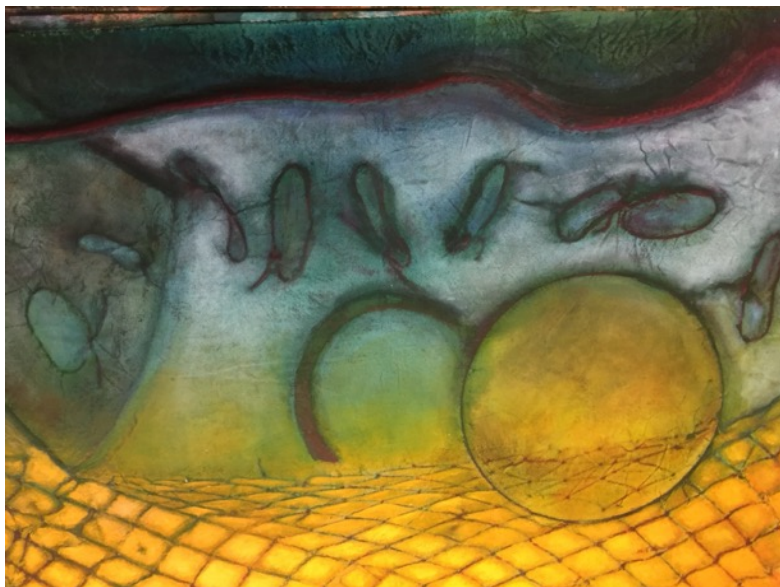


David's studio with *Ghost Net, Diptych 3*, 2019, acrylic on mica, each panel 40" x 40"

David Andres has been a CAS member for 15 years, CAS board member for 14 years, and CAS President (2017-19). He obtained an M. F. A. in painting and printmaking from Wichita State University and later a degree in Art Education and a museum studies certificate both from the University of Arizona. David is currently director and curator of the Louis Carlos Bernal Gallery at Pima Community College West where he also teaches gallery management, printmaking, and design. At the Process Museum, members will be treated to several spaces in order to journey through decades of landscapes and seascapes from this environmentally-focused artist.

For 15 years, Andres worked for the Arizona Commission on the Arts as an artist-in-residence, teaching state-wide, and in 2017 was awarded the Governor's Arts Award for Arts Educator. His work is included in many public (Tampa Museum of Art, Tucson Museum of Art, University of Arizona Museum of Art), corporate (Ventana Canyon Resort, Tucson, Swiss Bank, San Francisco), and private collections.

The years David has spent at the Sea of Cortez with his wife, artist Julia Andres, influenced much of his work to date. A scuba diver and underwater photographer, David swam with whale sharks on one recent excursion to the Sea. The use of gillnets that litter the sea floor impose danger to its inhabitants and devastation to the overall environment; some, stretching 19 miles long, are known as ghost nets. For 25 years, he has used the mineral mica, grinding and blending it. Mixed with acrylic polymer, mica gives a shimmering effect to his work indicative of the Sea's sun-drenched surface. During the pandemic, he painted large canvases and worked on encaustic panels incorporating his underwater photography and attached objects found by the sea onto and into the wax and mica.



Lens, acrylic and mica on canvas, 40" x 48"

Upcoming CAS Event

CAS TRIP TO NOGALES, AZ

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023 NOON - 5 PM

Our first stop is the Wittner Museum, dedicated to the art of Paula Wittner, an east coast artist who's lived in southern Arizona for many years. The museum's walls are stacked salon-style with large and small paintings. It also has a stage where Evan Kory, Juilliard-trained pianist, will play a few classical tunes. Light refreshments will be served. We will stay there about 30 minutes.

We will then walk to see a new 36 ft. x 18 ft. mural (pictured below) by Carlos Ibarra, an ambitious project that will have taken over a year to complete that represents his story of growing up in sister cities separated by the international border. Ibarra says, "Like many



Nogales natives, I grew up trying to find an identity that reconciled, or struck a balance between the culture and country I was born in – that is, the United States – with the culture and heritage of the country my family came from, Mexico. That childhood struggle to find a single identity from opposite poles eventually seeped its way into my work. Most of the art I've made have been attempts to examine two seemingly opposite things and combine them into one thing imbued with a new and unique meaning."

After we spend some time admiring the mural, we cross the street to La Linea Art Studio and Gallery. A tequila bar will be available and Carlos will lead a short discussion on the mural and its significance to the community, followed by a Q&A. While tacos and tequila or non-alcoholic drinks are served outside, CAS members may walk around the gallery. Juan Pablo Chipe, an artist from Nogales, Sonora now living in Spain, and currently doing a residency in China, will be exhibiting his pop art style of work during the visit.

CAS will charter a bus leaving from the museum at noon and returning no later than 5:00. The price of the bus trip will be announced soon.

Upcoming CAS Event

STUDIO OF ALBERT KOGEL

CAS HOLIDAY PARTY

Sunday December 17, 2023

My work connects me to my unconscious mind. Artistic expression is a thread that I follow through myself never knowing how or where it will end. My creative process allows me to travel without leaving the studio. I enjoy cutting, slashing, and burning wood as well as painting on canvas and paper. Outsider art, Expressionism, and projective testing influence me. My work is raw and captures fleeting thoughts, freezes them in time. Albert Kogel



Embers, acrylic on wood

You may have happened across Albert Kogel's work during the many years (1993-2018) he exhibited at the former Davis Dominguez Gallery in Tucson. His sculptures, installations, paintings, fabric collages, and works on paper are familiar not only for their expressionistic roots but for their exaggerated colors. Kogel presents in three dimensions, often using layers of jagged and raw wood. In his work, Kogel acknowledges canines, cathedrals, seascapes, and especially self-portraits. Kogel received a B. F. A. and M. F. A. from the University of Arizona and taught at Cochise College in Sierra Vista, Arizona for 40 years. A native of New York, Kogel arrived in Tucson in the early 70's. He has made it his home ever since.



*Tide Pools, wood,
31" x 62"*

The CAS hospitality team will treat us to a selection of holiday delights for all to enjoy.

Curator's Corner



New art, new exhibitions, new season

The Contemporary Art Society has once again been successful in providing funds for two important additions to the TMA permanent collection. The first purchase was a photography suite, *Toys Are Not Us*, 2017, by Shelley Niro. Niro is a multi-disciplinary artist from Canada, a member of the Six Nations Reserve, Turtle Clan, Bay of Quinte Mohawk. She has worked in a variety of media, including beadwork, painting, photography, and film and her work addresses stereotypical images of Indigenous peoples. Niro received an M. F. A. degree from the University of Western Ontario in 1997 and received further studies in filmmaking at the Banff Centre for the Arts. Her short film, *The Shirt*, was presented at the 2003 Venice Biennale and the 2004 Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah. *Toys are Not Us*, 2017, (lower left) is composed of five

archival pigment prints in which Niro has placed vintage plastic figurines of bare-chested Indigenous warriors into various settings in which they appear simultaneously absurd, heroic, and joyous.

Another new purchase acquisition is from Tucson artist Claire Campbell Park, *After the Fire: Prickly Pear*, 2006, handwoven linen (lower right). Her work has been included in several exhibitions throughout the country, including *Made in California 1900-2000: Art, Image and Identity*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art; *The International Textile Competition*, Kyoto Convention Center, Japan; and *The Twelfth International Biennial of Miniature Textiles*, in Szombathely, Hungary. Park received an M.F.A. degree from U.C.L.A. in 1978. Since then, she has taught thousands of students from varied geographical, cultural, economic, vocational, and educational backgrounds and lectured widely throughout the world. Her book, *Creating with Reverence: Art, Diversity, Culture and Soul*, is used by creativity support groups, college and university Studio Art courses, and Religious Studies classes. Park's *After the Fire: Prickly Pear*, 2006, is a *tour de force* example of her fine weaving and astute attention to the nuances of color.

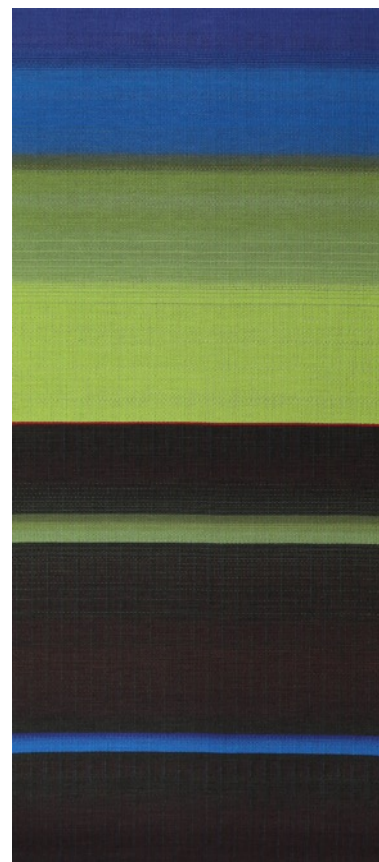
With the highly successful *Arizona Biennial 2023* just concluding, the next feature exhibition at TMA is Dr. Kristopher Driggers's *CUMBI: Textile, Society, and Memory in Andean South America*, opening October 1, 2023, which will present both textiles from the art of the Ancient Americas collection and contemporary art lent by artists from Andean South America whose work is inspired by weaving traditions. The full curatorial team is also working on the TMA Centennial exhibition entitled *Time Travelers*, opening March 17, 2024,

featuring some of the iconic works from the TMA collection, selected for their historic significance to the museum and beyond, and their ability to inspire and resonate with contemporary artists with new perspectives on media and content.



Shelly Niro, *Toys are not us, Day at the Beach*, 2017, archival pigment prints, Museum Purchase, funds provided by the Tucson Museum of Art Contemporary Art Society 2023.9.5

Claire Campbell Park, *After the Fire: Prickly Pear*, 2006, handwoven linen, Museum Purchase, funds provided by the Tucson Museum of Art Contemporary Art Society 2023.10



Recent CAS Event

ARIZONA BIENNIAL 2023

Sunday, April 16, 2023



Modern and Contemporary Art Exhibitions at TMA

ARIZONA BIENNIAL 2023

LAST CHANCE: CLOSES SUNDAY OCTOBER 1

CUMBI: TEXTILES, SOCIETY, AND MEMORY IN ANDEAN SOUTH AMERICA

Opens October 14, 2023-Feb 25, 2024

In Inka culture, the Quechua word *cumbi* described exquisite textiles that were among the finest works ever produced in ancient South America. *Cumbi* had elaborate, tapestry-woven designs and were intricately produced from countless threads. Virtuoso in their creation, these textiles were highly restricted in society: Inka-period weavers made *cumbi* exclusively to be worn by an emperor. For that reason, *cumbi* evokes two ideas at once: It speaks to both the technical mastery of Andean artists and the role of cloth in shaping a social world.

Inspired by the term's dual emphasis on artistry and society, *CUMBI: Textiles, Society, and Memory in Andean South America* offers a new look at 2,000 years of art in Andean traditions. Presenting textiles from the ancient Andes alongside the creations of contemporary Latin American and Latinx artists inspired by ancestral weaving, the exhibition affirms the enduring, central role of cloth as a useful tool for thinking about aesthetics, social difference, and histories over millennia. Ancient works of Wari, Chimú, and Inka weaving drawn from the permanent collection embody the artistry of Andean textile logics. Contemporary works by expert weavers who carry ancient Andean traditions exemplify the enduring significance of the tradition. And art by contemporary practitioners shows that cloth can be a powerful tool for social commentary and critique in our own moment.

Emphasizing the relevance of Andean traditions today, *CUMBI* offers a vision across millennia of the intimate connection between cloth and social life in a region that has long celebrated woven art.

CUMBI: Textiles, Society, and Memory in Andean South America will be accompanied by a printed catalog and robust schedule of public programs.

Upcoming CAS Travel

MEXICO CITY 2024

Due to overwhelming demand, CAS is organizing two trips to Mexico City in 2024: February 6-11 and February 13-18.

Both trips are currently fully subscribed, but if you would like to place your names on a waiting list for either trip, please email Pam Parry, CAS Travel Chair: pamparry@gmail.com

PHOENIX DAY TRIP 2024

The annual day trip to Phoenix will take place on Saturday, January 13, 2024.

Details and registration information will be sent by email later in the fall.

A Message from the Hospitality Committee Chair



Fall's almost here—and with it, the first CAS event of the season! Come join the Hospitality Committee to help us celebrate. No cooking skills required (although always appreciated!), just a willingness to find a way to help, if not by contributing food, by setting up, cleaning up, or offering an extra pair of hands; there's always something to do. It's a fun way to get to know other CAS members you might not otherwise and add to the festive nature of CAS events.

Moira Geoffrion has stepped off the Board after years of service during which she wore many different hats, including that of Chair. During the last few years, she distinguished herself as well by putting on an apron. We hope she continues to put that apron on occasionally to treat us to her creative culinary concoctions! Many feet are needed to fill her shoes, or better said, wooden spoons to stir her pot! Thank you again, Moira.

Please contact me if you'd like to join our team: Cita Scott 520-404-1551
citascott@me.com

Looking forward to seeing everyone soon and a year full of art!

CAS BOARD 2023 - 2024

David Wohl, President
Jeanne Pickering, Vice President
and Treasurer
Rameen Ahmed
David Andres
Bonnie Bradford
Candice Davis
Louise Glasser
Regina Heitzer-Momaday
Benjamin Johnson
Albert Kogel
Alejandro (Alex) Macias
Christina McNearney
Pam Parry
Julie Sasse
Cita Scott
Carrie Seid
Marvin Shaver

Julie Sasse, Chief Curator and Curator of
Modern and Contemporary Art

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 NEW CAS MEMBERS SINCE THE SPRING 2023 NEWSLETTER!

Walda Abbott

Ronda Carnegie & Jack Meyers

Shelley Dean

William George

Susan Hayes

Jonquil Le Master*

Marilyn Lindsay

Alejandro Macias*

Mary Nation*

Sheila Parkert

Tanya* & Craig Slate

Suzanne Strauss

Suzanne Villella

Judith Wright* & Glenn Sears

Virginia Yrun & Howard Shore

* Artist Member



Front cover, left to right:

David Andres, *Winged Victory*, acrylic on sewn canvas

La Línea Gallery, Nogales, Arizona

Albert Kogel, untitled, 2013, wood installation