

Phoenix Art Museum

News Release

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Phoenix Art Museum presents an artist's journey through inner and outer space

Contemporary Forum Lecture Series features artist Dario Robleto, who questions the boundaries between science and art

PHOENIX (February 28, 2017) – On March 15, at 6:30 pm Phoenix Art Museum will present a unique evening – part storytelling, part performance, part sound-scape – featuring transdisciplinary artist Dario Robleto. Robleto, a Houston-based artist, storyteller, and self-described “citizen-scientist,” comes to the Museum as part of the Contemporary Forum Lecture Series. Entitled *The Pulse Armed with a Pen: An Unknown History of the Human Heartbeat*, Robleto’s intermedia performance promises an intertwining of artistic methods and scientific perspective.

Robleto is renowned for one of his recent projects which centered on *The Golden Record*, a project by NASA to encapsulate human existence. The record contained songs from a wide range of cultures and instructions on how to find Earth, among other things. The narrative Robleto derived from the project illustrated how intense human emotion can be embedded in to an object. Included were heart and brain recordings of the project’s creative director, Ann Druyan widow of the famed astronomer and cosmologist Carl Sagan.

“We are pleased to welcome Dario Robleto to Phoenix Art Museum,” said Amada Cruz, the Sybil Harrington Director and CEO of Phoenix Art Museum. “The Museum strives to be on the cutting edge of contemporary art, and the Contemporary Forum Lecture Series continues to bring some of the most innovative contemporary artists to our Museum in a setting accessible to everyone in our community.”

Born of Robleto’s research-driven practices, *The Pulse Armed with a Pen: An Unknown History of the Human Heartbeat* weaves together multiple histories of human exploration. From pre-Edison sound recordings and the earliest attempts to record a human heart, to the heartbeat and brainwave recordings currently on a probe heading for the edge of the solar system, *The Pulse Armed with a Pen* is a performative journey through inner and outer space.

The lecture will be held at 6:30 pm in Whiteman Hall and is free and open to the public as part of #FreeAfterThree Wednesdays (each Wednesday, general admission is free from 3pm-9pm). Seating is limited and RSVPs are recommended. Please reserve a seat at <http://bit.ly/CFLSDR>. The Contemporary Forum Lecture Series is generously sponsored by Fennemore Craig, P.C.

About Dario Robleto

Dario Robleto is an American transdisciplinary artist, storyteller, and “citizen-scientist.” His research-driven practice results in intricately handcrafted objects that reflect his exploration of music, popular culture, science, war, and American history. He received his BFA from the University of Texas at San Antonio and lives and works in Houston.

Robleto has been a visiting artist and lecturer at many universities and institutions including Bard College, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Rhode Island School of Design, and the Hubble Space Telescope Science Institute. In 2013-14 he served as the California College of the Arts Viola Frey Distinguished Visiting Professor in Oakland. Recent exhibitions include *Dario Robleto: Survival Does Not Lie in the Heavens* curated by Gilbert Vicario (Des Moines Art Center, 2012); *Explode Every Day: An Inquiry into the Phenomena of Wonder* (MASS MoCA, 2016); and the Whitney Biennial (Whitney Museum of American Art, 2004).

About Contemporary Forum

Contemporary Forum is a dynamic volunteer organization whose mission is to support contemporary art development at Phoenix Art Museum. Contemporary Forum is dedicated to promoting interest in and understanding of contemporary art through acquisitions, exhibition sponsorship, and educational programs.

About The CF Lecture Series

The CF Lecture Series is a monthly event that takes place at Phoenix Art Museum from October through May (in 2017, the Series extends through June). The Lecture Series aims to provide an inviting, accessible forum for the general public to get to know some of the country's finest contemporary artists and art professionals. Admission to CF Lecture Series events is free; seating is limited and RSVPs at tickets.phxart.org are recommended. The CF Lecture Series is sponsored by Fennemore Craig, P.C.

About Phoenix Art Museum

Phoenix Art Museum has provided access to visual arts and educational programs in Arizona for more than 50 years and is the largest art museum in the Southwestern United States. Critically acclaimed national and international exhibitions are shown alongside the Museum's permanent collection of more than 18,000 works of American, Asian, European, Latin American, Western American, modern and contemporary art, and fashion design. The Museum also presents festivals, a comprehensive film program, live performances and educational programs designed to enlighten, entertain and stimulate visitors of all ages. Visitors also enjoy vibrant photography exhibitions through the Museum's landmark partnership with the Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona. To learn more about Phoenix Art Museum, visit PhxArt.org, or call the 24-hour recorded information line at (602) 257-1222.

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