

# Phoenix Art Museum

News Release

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Margaree Bigler, Communications Manager  
602.257.2105 | [margaree.bigler@phxart.org](mailto:margaree.bigler@phxart.org)

## Phoenix Art Museum hosts the ninth-annual PhotoBid exhibition and auction

*The 2017 INFOCUS PhotoBid Exhibition and Gala Art Auction benefits exhibitions and education programs*

**PHOENIX (October 5, 2017)** – On November 16, Phoenix Art Museum will host the 2017 **INFOCUS** PhotoBid Gala Art Auction. Now in its ninth year, PhotoBid is a live auction and fundraising event that benefits exhibitions and educational programming at the Museum. Sponsored by **INFOCUS**, the Museum’s photography support group, the auction will be held from 6 – 9 pm, inviting collectors of any experience level to bid on signed, limited-edition photographic prints donated by acclaimed photographers from Arizona and the United States, as well as a selection of photography books. The featured works will also be on view for three weeks prior to the event, from October 21 to November 15, in the Museum’s Norton Photography Gallery.

“Phoenix Art Museum is grateful for its community of volunteers who are dedicated to supporting the Museum,” said Amada Cruz, the Sybil Harrington Director and CEO of Phoenix Art Museum. “Events like PhotoBid are successful because of the generosity of the artists who donate their works, as well as those collectors who purchase them. **INFOCUS** is an integral part of our Museum and helps to make world-class photography accessible to our community.”

Donated by artists and galleries, the photographic works to be included in PhotoBid have been selected by Rebecca Senf, Ph.D., the Norton Family Curator of Photography at the Museum and the chief curator at the Center for Creative Photography, Tucson. The pieces vary in size and subject matter, and include diverse processes such as platinum palladium, gelatin silver, archival pigment, cibachrome, cyanotype, and more. The featured artists include internationally-recognized photographers such as Kōzō Miyoshi, Hiroshi Watanabe, Kate Breakey, and Mark Klett. Of special note is contributor Michael Lundgren, who was the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2017.

“**INFOCUS** is thrilled to be continuing PhotoBid into its ninth year,” said Dr. Senf. “This is a significant, unique event for the photography community. It allows our community to experience work by exciting up-and-coming artists as well as world-renowned photographers, and also allows local collectors to get involved and support photographic exhibitions and education in Arizona.”

Entrance to see the PhotoBid exhibition (open from October 21 – November 15) is included in general admission to the Museum. Tickets to the auction (on November 16) are available at [tickets.phxart.org](http://tickets.phxart.org), with prices ranging from \$49 to \$75 based on date of purchase. Seasoned and first-time collectors are encouraged to attend. For further details, visit [phxart.org/exhibition/photobid2017](http://phxart.org/exhibition/photobid2017).

### Pre-Auction PhotoBid Programs at the Museum

**PhotoBid Artist Talk: Lisa M. Robinson**

October 25 | 6:30 – 9 pm

Join **INFOCUS** for a discussion by Lisa M. Robinson, one of the participating artists in this year’s PhotoBid. Based in Tucson, Robinson is a fine-art photographer whose work is a meditation on the landscape, investigating ideas of transition and the passage of time. Robinson will discuss her body of work, including the photograph “Confluence” (from her *Terrestra* series) which will be included in the auction.

Free for Museum Members, \$5 for non-Members. For questions, please contact [support-if@phxart.org](mailto:support-if@phxart.org).

RSVP | [tickets.phxart.org](http://tickets.phxart.org)

**PhotoBid Artist Talk: Richard Laugharn**

November 1 | 6:30 – 9 pm

Join **INFOCUS** for a discussion by Richard Laugharn, one of the participating photographers in this year's PhotoBid. Laugharn will speak about his artistic practice of capturing the desert landscape on film. He will also discuss his photograph, "The Sykes Crater Saguaro (Diptych)," part of the *Following Desert Plants* series, which will be included in the auction. Free for Museum Members, \$5 for non-Members. For questions, please contact [support-if@phxart.org](mailto:support-if@phxart.org). RSVP | [tickets.phxart.org](https://tickets.phxart.org)

#### **First Friday Scavenger Hunt**

November 3 | 6 – 10 pm

During free-access hours on First Friday, November 3, pick up a PhotoBid-themed scavenger hunt at the front desk and head upstairs to the Norton Gallery for a fun activity in photography appreciation!

#### **About the Exhibition**

The 2017 **INFOCUS** PhotoBid Exhibition and Gala Art Auction *will be on view from October 21 through November 15 in the Norton Photography Gallery. This exhibition is organized by Phoenix Art Museum. It is made possible through the generosity of INFOCUS and the participating artists and galleries.*

*Admission is free for Museum Members; veterans, active-duty, and retired military; Maricopa Community College students, staff, and faculty (with ID); and youth aged 5 and under. Entrance to the exhibition is included in general admission for the general public. During voluntary-donation, free-access times, the exhibition is offered free to the general public. Free-access times include Wednesdays from 3 – 9 pm, the first Fridays of every month from 6 – 10 pm, and the second weekend of each month (Saturday from 10am – 5pm and Sunday from Noon – 5pm). For a full breakdown of general admission prices and hours, see [bit.ly/VisitPhxArt](http://bit.ly/VisitPhxArt).*

*To request interviews and high-resolution photography, contact Margaree Bigler at 602.257.2105 or [margaree.bigler@phxart.org](mailto:margaree.bigler@phxart.org) or Kathy Morgan at [support-if@phxart.org](mailto:support-if@phxart.org).*

#### **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](http://PhxArt.org), or call the 24-hour recorded information line at 602.257.1222.

#### **About INFOCUS**

**INFOCUS** is a vibrant support group of Phoenix Art Museum's photography department, composed of people interested in photography as a dynamic art form. Working together, photographers, collectors and photography enthusiasts provide a high-quality forum for the study, exhibition and production of fine-art photographs. From access to world-class photography and photography experts through exhibitions and lectures at Phoenix Art Museum to a wide variety of engaging monthly activities, **INFOCUS** programs are designed to educate its members and the public about the history and practice of photography, to encourage collecting and promote the preservation of photographic treasures. In addition, **INFOCUS** has focused increasingly on supporting and spotlighting emerging photographic talent. For additional information about **INFOCUS**, please visit [infocus-phx.org](http://infocus-phx.org).