

Phoenix Art Museum

News Release

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Phoenix Art Museum announces PhxArt Project: CityScape, a new partnership with CitySkate to present special installations and more at CityScape complex in downtown Phoenix

The Museum will feature original art works, hands-on art activities, live performances, and Museum shopping experiences at the annual ice-skating event beginning November 24

PHOENIX (November 13, 2017) – Phoenix Art Museum will participate in this year’s CitySkate at CityScape Phoenix, the beloved annual event that brings a temporary ice-skating rink to downtown Phoenix. Beginning on November 24, the Museum will take over a retail space in the CityScape complex to host special art installations, performances, and a pop-up shop by The Museum Store during the annual ice-skating event. The space, called PhxArt Project: CityScape, will feature original work by visual artist Saskia Jordá, as well as activities and performances by local artists including SentiDos Dance, Oh My Ears, and Liliana Gomez. PhxArt Project: CityScape will also present a large-scale outdoor installation by artist Melissa Martinez. Entrance is free, and visitors will be able to access the space most days from November 24 through January 7 (see full daily schedule at phxart.org/project).

“The Museum is excited to participate in this year’s CityScape event,” said Amada Cruz, the Sybil Harrington Director and CEO of Phoenix Art Museum. “This is a wonderful opportunity for the Museum to connect with our community in a new way. To have a meaningful, creative experience is something that can happen inside the Museum as well as beyond our galleries. Our presence at CityScape will allow us to bring original works by local artists to visitors of all ages during the holiday season.”

The featured installation inside PhxArt Project: CityScape, entitled *Cacerolazo*, is an original work by local artist Saskia Jordá. In Spanish, *cacerolazo* refers to the action of striking a pot to make a loud sound, as well as a unique form of political protest that consists simply of a group of people making noise by banging on pots and pans. Originating in South America in the 1970s in response to food shortages, the *cacerolazo* is a remarkable form of demonstration, a cathartic activity that enables participants to make themselves heard without saying a word. Inspired by a *cacerolazo* from the artist’s childhood in Venezuela, Jordá’s installation will consist of hundreds of pots, pans, and utensils, suspended at varying heights from the ceiling rafters within reach of the viewer. The ladles and other utensils will be covered in yarn, and beneath the suspended pots will lie a river of red fibers. At select times, viewers may be invited to interact with the installation as well as experience on-site performances and programs including dance, music, and hands-on activities.

In addition to *Cacerolazo*, local artist Melissa Martinez’s installation entitled *Drip, Dribble, Drop*, previously featured at the Scottsdale Center for the Arts in 2013, will be on view outdoors in the CityScape Plaza. Featuring numerous suspended umbrellas that light up at night, the large-scale installation invites viewers to ponder, reflect, and of course, take the ultimate selfie.

“PhxArt Project: Cityscape will be an exciting, engaging addition to this year’s event,” said Sara Anderson, the director of marketing at CityScape. “With this holiday event, we seek to give members of our community the opportunity to have a meaningful holiday experience with their loved ones, and art is an integral part of that experience. We’re excited to partner with the Museum and include interactive, original works by local artists in our programming.”

Performances at PhxArt Project: CityScape will run every Friday through Sunday, including original works by SentiDos Dance, a brand-new project led by Joan Rodriguez and Taimy Miranda, with the collaboration of David Olarte (Stilo Dance) and Convergence Ballet; dancer and choreographer Steven Redondo; dancer Liliana Gomez; and Oh My Ears, an organization that fosters the creation and sharing of new music in the Phoenix community. The Museum will host a collaborative activity

for families during the CitySkate Kick-Off event on November 25th, and The Museum Store will have a pop-up shop open through January 7. For a full schedule of performances, hands-on activities, and more, please visit at phxart.org/project.

Hours and Admission

Please visit phxart.org/project for a full schedule of business hours, performances, and more. Admission is free for all ages. For more information about ticket prices to the CitySkate ice rink, please visit phxicerink.com.

To request interviews and high-resolution photography, contact Phoenix Art Museum's Marketing and Communications Office, at 602.257.2105 or email margaree.bigler@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, or call the 24-hour recorded information line at (602) 257-1222.

About Saskia Jordá

Saskia Jordá is an interdisciplinary artist working on site-specific installations, soft sculptures, and drawings. Her work has referenced the relationship between body and space, cultural identity, and mapping a sense of place since her undergraduate studies at Arizona State University and her graduate studies at the School of Visual Arts in New York City, where she earned her MFA. She has received various awards, including the Arlene and Morton Scult Contemporary Forum Award of the Phoenix Art Museum in 2015 and an Artist Project Grant from the Arizona Commission on the Arts in 2010. She has exhibited widely within the U.S. and internationally, and is currently based in Phoenix, Arizona. In addition to her studio work, Saskia co-founded the Taliesin Artist Residency Program, which she has directed since 2005, and has been teaching Drawing and Textiles at the college level. For more information, please visit saskiajorda.com.

About CityScape Phoenix

Located in the heart of Downtown Phoenix, CityScape Phoenix is a place where people come together for dining, nightlife, shopping, entertainment, business, living, community events and celebrations of all kinds. The perfect spot for a spontaneous night out on the town, CityScape Phoenix is a \$500 million mixed-use, high-rise destination that is home to more than 20 retailers including Urban Outfitters, Lucky Strike, Stand Up Live, Charming Charlie, The Arrogant Butcher and Kimpton Hotel Palomar Phoenix. CityScape Residences, 224 luxury apartments, sit atop the hotel and residents have full-access to the property's world-class services. Surrounded by light rail stops and adjacent to the Valley's premier professional sports and entertainment venues, CityScape Phoenix is steps away from Talking Stick Arena, Chase Field, the Phoenix Convention Center, Arizona State University's downtown campus and state and government offices. In an area that once lacked a central core, CityScape Phoenix has become an authentic urban space that connects people and generates energy, creativity, enterprise and excitement all day, every day in one central location. It all starts here. For more information, a tenant directory or to see what's happening, visit cityscapephoenix.com.

For more information about CitySkate, please visit phxicerink.com.

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