

Phoenix Art Museum

News Release

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Phoenix Art Museum brings designer Amy Lau to speak at Independent Woman Luncheon

Acclaimed New York-based designer will headline the popular fundraiser on January 30, 2018



PHOENIX (November 28, 2017) – In January, Phoenix Art Museum will welcome interior designer Amy Lau as the keynote speaker for the eighth-annual Independent Woman Luncheon. Considered one of the Valley’s most beautiful and beloved philanthropic events, the Independent Woman Luncheon has raised nearly \$2,000,000 on behalf of Phoenix Art Museum since its inception. The event celebrates the Valley’s premier design community as they come together in support of Phoenix Art Museum’s commitment to excellence in visual arts and education. This year, the Luncheon continues its tradition of inviting a high-profile designer to attend, welcoming Arizona native Amy Lau to the Museum to speak about her work. The event will take place on Tuesday, January 30, at 10 am in the Museum’s Cummings Great Hall.

“Phoenix Art Museum is grateful to receive ongoing support from our community, whose generosity has made events like the Independent Woman Luncheon a continued success,” said Amada Cruz, the Sybil Harrington Director and CEO. “The commitment of our Valley’s interior designers and the Museum’s volunteer leadership have a profound impact on our

ability to provide our city with access to world-class exhibitions and educational programs.”

This year’s guest speaker is Amy Lau, whose interiors are known for their expressiveness, impeccable attention to detail, and fusion of fine art and design elements. Born and raised in Arizona, Lau studied art history at the University of Arizona and later received a master’s degree in fine and decorative arts from the prestigious Sotheby’s Institute of Art graduate program in New York. Lau often incorporates curated commissions into her designs, working with emerging and established artists to create original art installations, wall coverings, avant-garde lighting fixtures, and more. Combined with a fondness for mixing vintage and contemporary pieces and an emphasis on a balance between all elements of design, Lau’s work transforms the styles and preferences of individual clients into artistically inspired, refined living spaces.

“We’re delighted to bring Amy Lau to Phoenix Art Museum for this year’s Luncheon,” said Matthew Boland, chair of the 2018 IWL Committee and owner of MMB Studio and Main Dish in Scottsdale. “As an Arizona native and a renowned interior designer with an exceptional knowledge of and appreciation for many kinds of art, Lau is uniquely able to comprehend the gravity of the Independent Woman Luncheon’s mission: to support and elevate the arts and education in Phoenix by bringing world-class art to Phoenix Art Museum and making it accessible to the entire community.”

The Independent Woman Luncheon also offers an exclusive opportunity to see one-of-a-kind pieces by the Valley’s premier design firms. Participating designers have been asked to create Lau-inspired centerpieces, which luncheon guests will be able to bid on. All proceeds will directly support exhibitions and education at the Museum.

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Tickets and Event information:

Tickets are \$300 for individual seats. Hosted tables of 10 start at \$5,000. To purchase tickets or receive further information, contact specialevents@phxart.org.

For interviews, images, and press, contact Margaree Bigler, marketing and communications manager, at 602.257.2105, or visit phxart.org.

The 2018 Independent Woman Luncheon is generously sponsored by David E. Adler Rugs, bulthaup Scottsdale, The Diane & Bruce Halle Foundation, and Jacquie & Bennett Durance, with additional support provided by Main Dish, Desert Star Construction, Kravet, Ardy's Custom Workshop, and 1stdibs.

About the Independent Woman Luncheon

First established in 2011, the Independent Woman Luncheon is a philanthropic event that raises funds for exhibition and education programming at Phoenix Art Museum. The 2018 event is led by a volunteer leadership committee chaired by Matthew Boland.

About Amy Lau

Founded in 2001, Amy Lau Design creates interiors known for their warmth, expressiveness, and impeccable attention to detail. Lau has a reverence for the inherent beauty of natural materials and landscapes, and thoughtfully incorporates elements of each into every project. Embracing both art and design, each personalized space is enlivened with dynamic mixes of vintage and contemporary pieces and site-specific commissions. Lau's portfolio of luxurious residential interiors includes an array of artistic and sophisticated homes throughout the world. The firm's work has been featured in such publications as *Architectural Digest*, *Elle Décor*, *House Beautiful*, *NY Cottages & Gardens*, *Martha Stewart Living*, and *Luxe Interiors + Design*.

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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