

Phoenix Art Museum

News Release

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Phoenix Art Museum August 2019 Event and Exhibition Highlights

Exhibition and Event Highlights

FEATURED EVENTS:

The Whole Story Part X

Friday, August 2 | 7:30 pm

Purchase tickets [here](#).

The Whole Story returns to Phoenix Art Museum throughout 2019! This live storytelling show celebrates the nuances of our humanity through personal stories told from the Black perspective. Featured storytellers take the stage at 7:30 pm.

Stroller Tour Tuesday

August 13, September 10 | 10:30 am

RSVP [here](#).

Caregivers and their littlest ones ages 0-18 months are invited to join educators for art-inspired conversation designed for curious adults and our youngest museum visitors. Chatty babies and nursing moms welcome!

Spiritual Searching in Modern times: Agnes Pelton's Desert Transcendentalism

August 17 | 1 pm

RSVP [here](#).

Throughout her sixty-year career as a modern American artist, Agnes Pelton (1881-1961) explored multiple strains of mysticism to chart an independent course of spiritually attuned paintings. This talk traces Pelton's appropriation of various spiritual sources, including New Thought, Theosophy, Agni Yoga, astrology, and numerology, and her primary belief in art as a form of personal and creative transcendence.

Educator Arts Day

August 24 | 9 am

RSVP [here](#).

Join us for Phoenix Art Museum's 5th Annual Educator Arts Day. Educators enjoy a free day of celebrating arts integrated learning with engaging professional development workshops, The Cultural Resource Fair, opportunities to network with educators from across Arizona, and more!

Family Afternoon

Saturday, August 31 | Noon – 4 pm

Pricing: General Admission plus a \$3 materials fee per participant. Free for Members.

Family workshops are hands-on experiences for children and adults to explore the Museum together. Our Museum Educators will guide your family in looking closely in the galleries and making your own work of art to take home. The workshop is inspired by *Abstract Composition* by Carlos Mérida located in the American Gallery.

FILMS:

National Theatre Live: Allelujah!

August 10, 18 | 1 pm

(written by Alan Bennett / dir. Nicholas Hytner / 170 min / Rated PG-13 / English)

The Beth, an old fashioned cradle-to-grave hospital serving a town in Yorkshire, is threatened with closure as part of an efficiency drive. A documentary crew, eager to capture its fight for survival, follows the daily struggle to find beds on the Dusty Springfield Geriatric Ward, and the triumphs of the old people's choir.

Purchase tickets [here](#).

Please note: National Theatre Live is a telecast and not a live performance at the Museum.

Friends of Contemporary Art Film Series: Who Are We? The Art of Memory – La Gran Belleza

August 28 | 6 pm

(dir. Paolo Sorrentino / Italy 2013 / 142 min / Not Rated /Color / In Italian with English subtitles)

Journalist Jep Gambardella (the dazzling Toni Servillo, Il divo and Gomorrah) has charmed and seduced his way through the lavish nightlife of Rome for decades. Since the legendary success of his one and only novel, he has been a permanent fixture in the city's literary and social circles, but when his sixty-fifth birthday coincides with a shock from the past, Jep finds himself unexpectedly taking stock of his life, turning his cutting wit on himself and his contemporaries, and looking past the extravagant nightclubs, parties, and cafés to find Rome in all its glory: a timeless landscape of absurd, exquisite beauty.

Purchase tickets [here](#).

Sponsored by [Lisa Sette Gallery](#).

WEEKLY/MONTHLY EVENTS:

August Object of the Month

Aug 1, 3, 15, 22, 29 | 11:30 am

Each month, join us for a gallery talk led by a Museum Docent and learn more about an object from the collection or on view in a special exhibition.

In her early 60s, artist Agnes Pelton chose to remember her father in a painting entitled Awakening (Memory of Father). Join Docent Bob Crawford in a discussion to discover what the painting reveals about Pelton's relationship with her father and about the spiritual and philosophical underpinnings of her "desert abstractions" that form the core of the Museum's exhibition, [Agnes Pelton: Desert Transcendentalist](#).

Weekly Mindfulness Session

Aug 1, 8, 15, 29 | 12 pm

Learn how to focus on the present and live in the moment with a free, 30-minute mindfulness session. Scientific studies show the art of Mindfulness can relieve anxiety, depression, pain, and stress and actually change the way you feel, think, work and play by opening new pathways in the brain. Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction was developed at the University of Massachusetts Medical School in 1979 by physicist Jon Kabat-Zinn.

To learn more about Hospice of the Valley Mindfulness classes or to register, call (602) 530-6900 or visit hov.org/mindfulness.

No RSVP required. Mindfulness Sessions are **free and open to the public** and occur weekly, rain or shine, at the Dorrance Sculpture Garden.

Slow Art and Mindfulness

August 22 | Wolfswinkel Education Center

Noon – 12:45 pm

Join us as we use art and guided meditation to connect to the moment and create a deeper understanding of artworks once per month. Presented in partnership with Hospice of the Valley, each session focuses on one work of art in the Museum, blending guided mindfulness practice with a deeper reflection of an individual artwork.

Free for Members, included with general admission.

Make It!

August 28 | 3:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Make It! is a hands-on art-making space for all ages and abilities. Join Phoenix-based artists and museum staff to be inspired by works of art from the Museum's collection or current exhibitions.

Each month features a different object and art-making technique, and a chance to explore new materials, perspectives, and ways of connecting with art. July's monthly theme is "Opposites"! Learn about the techniques used in Op Art alongside Phoenix based artist [Isela Meraz](#) and create your own optical illusion piece inspired by the art of Julian Stanczak and Victor Vasarely.

VOLUNTARY DONATION AND FREE ACCESS TIMES:

General admission is voluntary donation and/or free during the times listed below. Special fees apply to specially ticketed exhibitions.

Pay-What-You-Wish Wednesday

Every Wednesday

3 pm – 9 pm

In an effort to reduce economic barriers and increase access to the arts, Phoenix Art Museum offers Pay-What-You-Wish admission every Wednesday from 3 to 9 pm. Voluntary donation as general admission for Pay-What-You-Wish Wednesdays is generously supported by Macy's, SRP, and Wells Fargo.

Discount Tire Free Family Sunday

August 11 | Noon – 5 pm

Through the generosity of Discount Tire, General admission to Phoenix Art Museum is waived and admission to the special-engagement exhibition *Agnes Pelton: Desert Transcendentalist* is discounted to \$5 from noon-5 pm on the second Sunday of each month through December 2019, with exciting activities, scavenger hunts, live performances, tours, and more for all ages.

EXHIBITIONS:

Julio César Morales: Invaders and the 2018 Phoenix Art Museum Artists' Grants Recipients Exhibition

On view through August 4

Julio César Morales: Invaders features work by the 2018 Arlene and Morton Scult Artist Award recipient, Julio César Morales, who is known for exploring the movement of people, narcotics, contraband, and American popular culture across the U.S.-Mexico border. The 2018 Phoenix Art Museum Artists' Grants Recipients exhibition features works by 2018 artist grants' recipients Taylor James, Malakai, Elliott Jamal Robbins, and Papay Solomon.

Flora

On view through August 18

Discover how flowers have inspired fashions through the ages. Showcases ensembles and accessories by Marc Jacobs, Comme des Garçons, Charles James, Slava Zaitsev, and more, the upcoming exhibition explores the evolution of botanical-inspired designs from the 18th century through the present.

Agnes Pelton: Desert Transcendentalist

On view through September 8

See the first survey of the recently rediscovered American painter in over 24 years. Agnes Pelton (1881-1961) painted conventional desert landscapes to make a living, but it was her abstract studies of earth and light, biomorphic compositions of delicate veils, shimmering stars, and atmospheric horizon lines, that distinguished her work.

Mexican Photographers, Mexican Views

On view through September 22

Mexican Photographers, Mexican Views features more than 60 works, including portraits and landscapes, created solely by Mexican artists that explore 20th century Mexico and the country's shifting national identity.

Landmarks

On view through November 24

The works of art in this gallery explore ways artists relate to and represent the land. From sites in national parks to things one might see in a desert or urban environment, the artists gathered here investigate different kinds of landmarks.

Transcendent Transcendentalists

On view through December 15

Complementing the Museum's special-engagement exhibition *Agnes Pelton: Desert Transcendentalist*, Raymond Johnson, Emil Bisttram, and Stuart Walker's 14 paintings in *Transcendent Transcendentalists*, including 12 of Jonson's paintings never before exhibited in an art museum, explores how these Transcendentalists guided viewers to higher planes of spirituality through abstract works.

Silk & Jade: Chinese Aristocratic Treasures

On view August 3, 2019 through March 29, 2020

This exhibition explores how silks, originally reserved for emperors, spread gradually through trade both geographically and socially and how jade was used to create many utilitarian and ceremonial objects, from indoor decorative items to jade burial suits.

Cricket, Tea, and Snuff: Chinese Intellectual Pursuits

On view August 3, 2019 through March 29, 2020

In traditional China, the literati, or educated class, set the standards for aesthetic taste and leisurely pursuits, many of which are still practiced today. Through a diverse selection of objects, this exhibition introduces viewers to a number of these preferences and interests.

The Timeless Landscape: Recent Gifts from the Papp Family

On view August 10 through November 17, 2019

Featuring gifts from The Papp Family Foundation, this exhibition showcases large hanging scrolls, horizontal scrolls, and album leaves distinguished by their structured ink brushstrokes and soft touches of color. Complimenting these paintings are examples of classical Chinese ceramics donated by Gail and Stephen Rineberg.

Clay and Bamboo: Japanese Ceramics and Flower Baskets

On view August 10, 2019 through March 29, 2020

This exhibition of contemporary Japanese ceramics examines how artists transcend functionality, gender, and material to create pieces that are modern yet rooted in tradition. Examples of basketry used for ikebana floral arrangements are also showcased and share a similar rustic and natural aesthetic.

Guru Nanak: 550th Birth Anniversary of Sikhism's Founder

On view August 17, 2019 through March 20, 2020

Guru Nanak (1469–1539) was the founder of Sikhism, and his concept of oneness includes spiritual, sociological, and humanitarian insights that have formed the cornerstone of Sikh writings and practices. This exhibition celebrates the 550th anniversary of Guru Nanak's birth and explores his fundamental beliefs through historical and contemporary images.