



North Carolina Museum of Art

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The North Carolina Museum of Art Announces Schedule of Events Related to Spring Exhibitions

Events include opening parties, lectures, and more related to the 'Global Meets Local' exhibitions

Raleigh, N.C.—The North Carolina Museum of Art announces its spring events schedule related to five special exhibitions featuring North Carolina painters, site-specific installations from Leonardo Drew, photography and videos by Thai artist Araya Rasdjarmrearnsook, and Senegalese jewelry and fashion.

The five exhibitions are opening on the Museum's ticketed exhibition floor in two phases.

- Opening March 7 are *Front Burner: Highlights in Contemporary North Carolina Painting* and *Christopher Holt: Contemporary Frescoes/Faith and Community*, a behind-the-scenes look at Christopher Holt's fresco for the Haywood Street Congregation in Asheville, paired with *Art in Translation* by Araya Rasdjarmrearnsook, which captures the artist's efforts to introduce framed reproductions of western art into rural villages, markets, and Buddhist temples in her native Thailand.
- Starting April 7, these exhibitions will be joined by *Good as Gold: Fashioning Senegalese Women* and an indoor-outdoor exhibition by Leonardo Drew.

Each phase includes an opening reception and events such as artist lectures, panel discussions, and workshops through the spring. All exhibition and related event tickets are on sale now; a full list of events is available at ncartmuseum.org/spring2020.



Opening Events

[Opening event for *Front Burner* and *Christopher Holt*](#)

Thursday, March 5, 7 pm

East Building, Level B

\$45 Members, \$50 Nonmembers

Preview the exhibition *Front Burner: Highlights in Contemporary North Carolina Painting* with guest curator Ashlynn Browning. Meet some of the 25 emerging, midcareer, and established North Carolina

(continued)

artists whose work is included, and learn more about the art they are creating. *Christopher Holt: Contemporary Frescoes/Faith and Community* is also open for viewing.

[Opening event for Good as Gold: Fashioning Senegalese Women and Leonardo Drew: Making Chaos Legible](#)

Thursday, April 2, 7 pm
East Building, Level B
\$45 Members, \$50 Nonmembers

Preview the exhibitions with Amanda M. Maples, curator of African art, and Linda Dougherty, chief curator and curator of contemporary art.

Lectures, Talks, Activities

[Mindful Museum: Outdoor Slow Art Appreciation](#)

Wednesday, March 25, 5:30–6:30 pm
Museum Park, Ellipse
\$13 Members, \$15 Nonmembers

In this hourlong guided immersion, participants spend quality time with just one or two works of art in the Museum Park, including Leonardo Drew's *City in the Grass*. Dress for the outdoors; be prepared to walk up to a mile. Ages 16 and up.



[Passport to Senegal: Coffee Conversation with Lina Iris Viktor](#)

Thursday, April 2, 10:30 am–noon
East Building, SECU Auditorium
\$10 members, \$15 Nonmembers

Ahead of the opening of *Good as Gold: Fashioning Senegalese Women*, artist Lina Iris Viktor converses with Amanda M. Maples, NCMA curator of African art, about her dark canvases filled with 24-karat gold. Working across multiple mediums, Viktor uses blue, black, white, and the ancient practice of gilding to create dark canvases embedded with “layers of light” in the form of symbols and intricate patterns. Generously supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

[Passport to Senegal: Photography Studio](#)

Saturday, April 4, 1–4 pm
East Building, Studio 1
\$55 Members, \$60 Nonmembers

How do we adapt to different light conditions, particularly when photographing darker skin? This workshop is an opportunity to study with internationally renowned photographer Alun Be. Participants learn to manipulate light in order to create truthful representations of their subjects.

[Humber Lecture: Leonardo Drew](#)

Friday, April 17, 7–8:30 pm
East Building, SECU Auditorium
\$10 Members, \$15 Nonmembers

Contemporary artist Leonardo Drew creates sculptures and site-specific installations including *City in the Grass* and *Making Chaos Legible*. Drew discusses work from his career and his intent for it to be a mirror for viewers, reflecting their individual experiences. Supported by the Robert Lee Humber Lectures Endowment.

The installation of Leonardo Drew's *City in the Grass* at the NCMA is generously supported by the Hartfield Foundation and Libby and Lee Buck.

Panel Discussion: Front Burner

Saturday, April 25, 7–8 pm
East Building, SECU Auditorium
\$10 Members, \$15 Nonmembers
Free with college ID; ticket required

Artists Luke Miller Buchanan, Celia Johnson, Carmen Neely, Barbara Campbell Thomas, and Antoine Williams talk with moderator Lien Truong about the current state of contemporary painting in the local and larger art world.

Art in Motion Sculpture Race

Saturday, May 2, 11 am–2 pm
Museum Park, Ellipse
Free; ticket required

Celebrate art, nature, and human innovation! Sculptures of all shapes, sizes, and materials, inspired by works of art from the Museum collection and Leonardo Drew's *City in the Grass*, must be pushed, pulled, or pedaled in this short race. Cheer on your favorite team or enter to race your own sculpture.

Mindful Museum: Outdoor Dance Activation

Wednesday, May 20, 5:30–6:30 pm
Museum Park, Ellipse
\$13 Members, \$15 Nonmembers

Join an hourlong social dance workshop at the temporary installation *City in the Grass* by Leonardo Drew. This workshop incorporates playful movement, collaboration, reflection, and dialogue. Bring water and dress comfortably. No dance experience necessary. Ages 16 and up.

Afripedia Screenings and Discussion

Thursdays, May [21](#) and [28](#), 6–8 pm
East Building, SECU Auditorium
Free; ticket required

Afripedia is a new documentary series offering compelling, intimate stories told by African visionary artists who are pushing the boundaries of creative self-expression. Each episode focuses on a different African country. Amanda M. Maples, NCMA curator of African art, and Felicia Ingram, manager of interpretation, lead discussions based on the films and *Good as Gold*.

Lecture: Fresco from Classical Painting to Modern North Carolina

Thursday, May 28, 10:30–11:30 am
Free with canned food or cash donation; ticket required

Conservator Perry Hurt discusses the history and technique of fresco painting from ancient classical Mediterranean culture through the Italian Renaissance, 20th-century Mexican modernism, Depression-era WPA work, and today. In conjunction with North Carolina mural painter Christopher Holt's exhibition *Contemporary Frescoes*.

Cash donations benefit A Place at the Table, Raleigh; canned food donations benefit Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina.

Youth and Family Programming

Pop-Up Art: Art of Gold

Sunday, April 5, Noon to 3 pm
East Building

Free; no reservations needed

Take inspiration from the elaborate ornamental jewelry in the exhibition *Good as Gold*, and create your own paper version of necklaces, brooches, and earrings using techniques from expert goldsmiths.

Family programs are generously supported by Duke Energy and WakeMed Children's Hospital.

Family Studio

Saturdays, 10:15 am–12:15 pm and 1–3 pm
East Building, Education Studios
\$6 Family-level members and above, \$8 Nonmembers



Two-hour studio workshop and gallery tour for families. Each participant (children and adults) must have a ticket. Best for families with children ages 5–11.

April 18: Build It!

Use everyday materials to construct an imaginative sculpture inspired by artist Leonardo Drew. See his site-specific sculptural installation in the exhibition *Leonardo Drew: Making Chaos Legible*; then, learn about composition and materials to create your own unexpected art! Separate exhibition ticket is not required to participate.

May 16: All about Abstract Painting

What makes art abstract? Create a painting that explores color, mood, and materials inspired by contemporary art on view in *Front Burner: Highlights in Contemporary North Carolina Painting*. Adults and children can enjoy creating individual works of art or collaborating on one piece together! Separate exhibition ticket is not required to participate.

Family programs are generously supported by Duke Energy and WakeMed Children's Hospital.

Teen and College Programming

ArtScene Teen Takeover! 2020 Vision

Saturday, March 28, Noon–4 pm
East Building
Free; ticket required

Create, hang out, and enjoy a teens-only space at the Teen Arts Council's annual teen takeover! Experience performances, art-making workshops, gallery activities related to *Front Burner: Contemporary Highlights in North Carolina Painting*, and unique VR interactions, all with a '20s flair.

College Social Spotlight

Friday, April 3, 6–9 pm
West Building, Sip café
Free; ticket required

College students are invited for an evening of live music, socializing, and art making related to *Front Burner: Contemporary Highlights in North Carolina Painting*. Meet new friends from local colleges and universities and learn about opportunities at the NCMA. Hosted by the NCMA College Advisory Panel.

Next-Gen Poetry Slam

Thursday, April 9, 7–9 pm
East Building, SECU Auditorium
\$5 Members, \$7 Nonmembers, Free with student ID

Young poets bring new performances of original work to the NCMA audience. Share your poetry or that of another poet in the slam fashion or as traditional recitation. Be inspired by *Front Burner: Contemporary Highlights in North Carolina Painting*. Compete for prizes or simply enjoy an evening of poetry. Register early to secure a place in the competition or participate in an open-mic session. For more information call Angela Lombardi, (919) 664-6779.

Educators

Educator Workshop with Art21: Connecting with Contemporary Art

Saturday, May 2, 10:15 am–4 pm
East Building, Studio 1
\$25 Members, \$28 Nonmembers

In collaboration with [Art21](#), this workshop investigates the work of Leonardo Drew and other contemporary artists to make connections between art and the world around us. Open to educators from all grade levels and subject areas. For more information call Jill Taylor, (919) 664-6748, or email jill.taylor@ncdcr.gov.

Partnerships

In conjunction with *Good as Gold*, the NCMA is collaborating on an artist residency with Artspace in downtown Raleigh featuring Senegalese artist Alun Be. From this open studio setting, Be is hosting a series of classes and workshops offered to community partners such as the Boys and Girls Club, Southeast Raleigh High School, and Winston-Salem State University.

In conjunction with *Front Burner*, tuition-free painting workshops are offered to college painting students during February. One of them takes place at SECCA, the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art in Winston-Salem. The workshops are led by artists with works in the show: William Paul Thomas, Georges Le Chevallier, and Shaun Richards. Students have been nominated by faculty for inclusion in these personalized studio workshops and will display their finished work in the NCMA's SECU Lobby Gallery.

During Art in Bloom, March 19–22, *Front Burner* will include a floral display. El Pueblo's youth group, Pueblo Power, will work with floral designers for the interpretation of Lien Truong's *I, Buffalo*. Art in Bloom is presented by PNC.

About the Exhibitions:

[Front Burner: Highlights in Contemporary North Carolina Painting](#): Throughout modern art history, painting has been declared dead and later resuscitated many times. Despite any debate over painting's viability, artists continue to persevere in keeping the medium fresh and new. Currently painting is enjoying a revival in the art world, and innovative North Carolina artists are helping to maintain its vibrant place on the front burner.

[Christopher Holt: Contemporary Frescoes/Faith and Community](#): This exhibition features monumental drawings, intimate portraits, and studies by Asheville artist Christopher Holt for the *Haywood Street Beatitudes* fresco completed in September 2019. The fresco is the result of a two-year community project led by Holt with the Rev. Brian Combs, founder of the Haywood Street congregation in Asheville.

[Art in Translation: Araya Rasdjarmrearnsook](#): Recognized as one of the preeminent video artists of Southeast Asia, Rasdjarmrearnsook explores the connections and complications between Western art history and the cultural traditions of various Asian nations.

[Good as Gold: Fashioning Senegalese Women](#): The first major exhibition of Senegalese gold jewelry focusing on the history of Senegal's gold, from past to present, and the beauty and complexity of the way Senegalese women use ornament and fashion to present themselves. A key theme of the exhibition is the Senegalese concept of *sañse* (a Wolof word for *dressing up* or *looking and feeling good*). *Good as Gold* explores how a woman in a city like Dakar might use a piece of gold jewelry to build a carefully tailored, elegant fashion ensemble.

[Leonardo Drew](#): This two-part project by contemporary artist Leonardo Drew features a monumental outdoor sculpture, *City in the Grass*, along with a gallery exhibition that provides a more in-depth look at his diverse body of work. Using a variety of materials—wood, cotton, canvas, paper, steel, aluminum, sand—Drew makes dynamic sculptures that convey a feeling of barely contained or restrained energy and chaos.

Exhibition Credit Information:

Good as Gold: Fashioning Senegalese Women is organized by Kevin D. Dumouchelle of the National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution. It is curated by Amanda Maples of the North Carolina Museum of Art.

Leonardo Drew: Making Chaos Legible is made possible, in part, by the generous support of the Hartfield Foundation and Libby and Lee Buck.

Front Burner: Highlights in North Carolina Contemporary Painting is organized by guest curator Ashlynn Browning in collaboration with the North Carolina Museum of Art.

All exhibitions are made possible, in part, by the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources; the North Carolina Museum of Art Foundation, Inc.; and the William R. Kenan Jr. Endowment for Educational Exhibitions. Research for these exhibitions is made possible by Ann and Jim Goodnight/The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fund for Curatorial and Conservation Research and Travel.

Images (top to bottom):

Fabrice Monteiro, *Signare #1*, 2011, inkjet print on baryta paper, 47 ¼ x 31 ½ in., Courtesy Magnin-A, © 2011 Fabrice Monteiro

Leonardo Drew with *City in the Grass* (detail), 2019, aluminum, sand, wood, cotton, and mastic, 102 x 32 ft., Collection of the artist, Courtesy Talley Dunn Gallery, Galerie Lelong, and Anthony Meier Fine Arts, © 2019 Leonardo Drew; Photograph: Hunter Canning/Madison Square Park Conservancy

Lien Truong, *I, Buffalo*, 2017, acrylic, silk, fabric paint, antique gold-leaf obi thread, black salt, and smoke on linen, 96 x 72 in., North Carolina Museum of Art, Purchased with funds from the William R. Roberson Jr. and Frances M. Roberson Endowed Fund for North Carolina Art; © 2017 Lien Truong

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About the North Carolina Museum of Art

The North Carolina Museum of Art's permanent collection spans more than 5,000 years, from ancient Egypt to the present, making the institution one of the premier art museums in the South. The Museum's collection provides educational, aesthetic, intellectual, and cultural experiences for the citizens of North Carolina and beyond. The 164-acre Ann and Jim Goodnight Museum Park showcases the connection between art and nature through site-specific works of environmental art. The Museum offers changing national touring exhibitions, classes, lectures, family activities, films, and concerts. The North Carolina Museum of Art is led by Director Valerie Hillings, PhD. Located at 2110 Blue Ridge Road in Raleigh, the NCMA is the art museum of the State of North Carolina and an agency of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, serving under the leadership of Governor Roy Cooper and the direction of Secretary Susi Hamilton, DNCR.