

MAH

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Images available upon request.

SANTA CRUZ MAH ANNOUNCES FEATURED EXHIBITIONS & PROJECTS IN 2022

Artworks explore personal and collective histories, identities, and memories



IMAGE CREDITS (FROM LEFT): ATMOSPHERIC PAINTING STUDY BY ENID BAXTER RYCE; COURTESY OF THE ARTIST. PRINT BY RALPH STEADMAN, COURTESY OF *FREAK POWER* EXHIBITION. *HOME MENDER* BY MONICA CANILAO; COURTESY OF THE ARTIST. THE CENTRAL STAGE FOR THE WATER CARNIVAL ON THE SAN LORENZO RIVER (CA. 1890s), COURTESY SANTA CRUZ PUBLIC LIBRARIES COLLECTION.

SANTA CRUZ, CA (January 4, 2022) — The Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History (MAH) is pleased to announce its exhibition program for 2022, which includes solo and group shows, collaborative partnerships, interdisciplinary projects, and a new outdoor arts festival. The schedule features a number of Santa Cruz exclusives with local, regional, and national artists.

“This year’s lineup continues our tradition of interpreting art and history through many lenses,” said Robb Woulfe, executive director of the MAH. “Our thinking and approach is collaborative, and we aim to commission, co-create, and present a wide variety of projects that transform public space, both indoors and out. We encourage visitors to immerse themselves in these inventive, placed-based offerings that each tell a unique story relevant to Santa Cruz County.”

Highlights from the season include: paintings and soundscapes by artist and filmmaker **Enid Baxter Ryce**; the return of the **Rydell Visual Arts Fellowship** showcase; an exhibition drawn from the collection of the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation, including works by **Leonardo Drew, Nicola Lopez, Wendy Red Star, Alison Saar, and Kehinde Wiley**; a project exploring the art of **Hunter S. Thompson’s** political movement; a collaboration with the **Amah Mutsun Tribal Band** around Indigenous culture; a multidisciplinary program on the concept of agriculture with the **MexiCali Biennial**; and an engagement with artist duo **MCXT** featuring a work that reimagines the Venetian Water Carnivals held in Santa Cruz during the Victorian era.

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

Atmosphere

January 14–May 15, 2022

Art Forum Gallery

An exhibition by artist and filmmaker Enid Baxter Ryce featuring paintings and soundscapes that explore the phenomena of Monterey Bay's fog and atmospheric rivers. Ryce's work will be exhibited with collections of archival photos, an interactive musical sculpture, and fog collectors created in collaboration with historian Dr. William Cowan, musician Lanier Sammons, sculptor Natalie Jenkins, and scientist Dan Fernandez.

Rydell Visual Art Fellowship Exhibition

January 21–March 20, 2022 | Solari Gallery

Honoring the legacy of local philanthropists Roy and Frances Rydell, this exhibition features the 2020-2021 Rydell Visual Arts Fund recipients: printmaker and illustrator Ann Altstatt; sculptor and designer Marc D'Estout; choreographer Cid Pearlman; and photographer Edward Ramirez. Presented in partnership with Community Foundation Santa Cruz County.

Strange Weather

April 14–August 14, 2022 | Solari Gallery

An exhibition that brings together works by influential artists from the 20th and 21st century that creatively illuminate and reframe the boundaries of bodies and the environment. Artists include Carlos Almaraz, Leonardo Drew, Joe Feddersen, James Lavadour, Nicola Lopez, Hung Liu, Julie Mehretu, Wendy Red Star, Alison Saar, Charles Wilbert White, and Kehinde Wiley.

Strange Weather is curated by Dr. Rachel Nelson, director, Institute of the Arts and Sciences, UC Santa Cruz in collaboration with Professor Jennifer González, History of Art and Visual Culture, UC Santa Cruz. The exhibition is organized by the Institute of the Arts and Sciences and the MAH, in collaboration with the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation.

Freak Power

May 27–September 18, 2022 | Art Forum Gallery

An exhibition that explores the art of Hunter S. Thompson's political movement. The show uses vintage screen-printed posters, photos, films, and texts to tell the story of the Battle of Aspen, which saw artists, beatniks, and other concerned citizens fighting against gentrification, oppression, war, and environmental destruction.

Freak Power is curated by Daniel J. Watkins and Yuri Zupancic.

MAH Colaboratory: Kincentricity

August 12, 2022–August 30, 2025 | Lezin Gallery

A project centered around the concept of *kincentricity*—kinship between humans and all other lifeforms—to celebrate a new multi-year initiative and partnership with the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band. Presented with support through a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Museums for America program.

The Land of Milk and Honey

August 26–December 31, 2022 | Solari Gallery

A traveling multidisciplinary arts and culture program focused on the ideological concept of agriculture in the regions of California and Mexico. The program seeks to navigate discourse around concepts of labor, food (in)security, environmental issues, farming practices, and food justice in the areas' shared narrative. Presented in partnership with the MexiCali Biennial.

The Land of Milk and Honey is curated by guest curators Rosalía Romero and Enid Baxter Ryce along with MexiCali Biennial co-founders Luis G. Hernandez and Ed Gomez.

CommonGround

September 16–25, 2022 | Countywide

A new biennial festival of place-inspired, outdoor work hosted in locations throughout Santa Cruz County, from downtown plazas and waterfronts to unique historical landmarks. Focused on temporary and performative public art projects in rural, urban, and architectural space, the 10-day event features site-responsive installations and interventions across the area's natural and built environments, connecting people, stories, and landscapes.

Participating artists and locations to be announced in early 2022.

Exhibition title to be announced

October 14, 2022–February 26, 2023 | Art Forum Gallery

Monica Canilao and Xara Thustra (MCXT) return to Santa Cruz for a hybrid residency that melds art and history into a kaleidoscopic experience of our present moment. The artist duo will present an outdoor and in gallery work that reimagines the local Venetian Water Carnivals, a Victorian-era spectacle on the San Lorenzo River, through a contemporary lens.

CURRENTLY ON VIEW

Out of the Ashes: Stories from the CZU Lightning Complex Fires

Through July 24, 2022 | Lezin Gallery

An exhibition and historical archive of art, objects, and stories from communities affected by the 2020 CZU Lightning Complex fires. Presented by The Humanities Institute at UC Santa Cruz with additional support provided by the History Forum.

Do You Know My Name?

Through August 21, 2022 | History Gallery & Online

Inspired by the MAH publication of the same name, this exhibition uncovers lesser known stories about Santa Cruz County residents from the early 20th century to the present. Presented by The Humanities Institute at UC Santa Cruz.

Queer Santa Cruz

Through September 24, 2023 | History Gallery & Online

An exhibition that explores the important contributions, impact, and history of the LGBTQ+ community in Santa Cruz County. Presented in partnership with The Diversity Center.

LOCATION AND HOURS

Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History

705 Front Street, Downtown Santa Cruz

Suggested Admission Prices: \$10 General Admission; \$8 Students / Teachers / Veterans;

FREE for members and children under 5.

Hours: Mon–Wed: closed; Thu–Sun: 12pm–6pm

ABOUT THE MAH

The MAH is a thriving community gathering place that offers a full slate of art and history exhibitions, visual and performing artworks, public festivals, education and outreach programs, and cultural celebrations in collaboration with its many partners. It maintains a permanent collection of regionally significant art and artifacts, a research library, a historical archive, and historic sites including the Evergreen Cemetery, Octagon Building, and Davenport Jail. It is also home to Abbott Square, a vibrant public plaza on the museum’s doorstep that offers food, social events, and year-round creative happenings.

Major funding for the MAH is generously provided by the County of Santa Cruz, The David and Lucille Packard Foundation, Institute of Museum and Library Services, and William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. Additional support comes from Arts Council Santa Cruz County, California Arts Council, California Humanities, Community Foundation Santa Cruz County, History Forum, The Humanities Institute at UC Santa Cruz, National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, and Santa Cruz City Arts.

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