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SANTA CRUZ MAH ANNOUNCES FEATURED EXHIBITIONS & PROJECTS IN 2023

**With works by Cannupa Hanska Luger, Hank Willis Thomas and Baz Dreisinger,
Frans Lanting and Chris Eckstrom, HYBYCOZO, and more**



IMAGE CREDITS (FROM LEFT): HUMPBACK WHALES, MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY, PHOTO BY FRANS LANTING; HYBYCOZO BY YELENA FILIPCHUK AND SERGE BEAULIEU, PHOTO BY LUKASZ SZCZEPANSKI; FUTURE ANCESTRAL TECHNOLOGIES BY CANNUPA HANSKA LUGER, PHOTO BY GABE FERMIN.

SANTA CRUZ, CA (January 18, 2023) — The Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History (MAH) is pleased to announce its exhibition program for 2023, which includes solo and group shows, collaborative partnerships, interdisciplinary projects, and the return of its biennial light festival. The schedule features a number of new commissions and premieres by local and visiting artists.

“This year’s lineup continues the MAH’s curatorial approach that juxtaposes contemporary art with historic preservation, interweaving past and present narratives,” said Robb Woulfe, executive director of the MAH. “We look to address some of today’s pressing issues—human rights, indigeneity, environmental protection—in the hopes of inspiring understanding and action, while also offering space to explore the realms of technology, science fiction, and pop culture.”

Highlights from the season include: an exhibition by the Santa Cruz-based National Geographic contributors **Frans Lanting and Chris Eckstrom**; an immersive installation of writings by people in prisons around the world, created by **Hank Willis Thomas and Dr. Baz Dreisinger**; a project by Indigenous artist **Cannupa Hanska Luger** that blends media, place, storytelling, and documentation; a large-scale geometric art installation by Ukrainian and Canadian artists **Yelena Filipchuk and Serge Beaulieu**, known as **HYBYCOZO**; a multi-site, light-based work by Belgian artist couple **Tom and Lien Dekyvere**; and an exhibition about pioneering female comic book artists, in collaboration with **The Center for Monster Studies** at UC Santa Cruz.

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

Bay of Life: From Wind to Whales

January 19–April 30, 2023 | Solari Gallery

A new exhibition from renowned National Geographic photographer-writer team Frans Lanting and Chris Eckstrom that connects land and sea.

The Writing on the Wall

March 10–July 9, 2023 | Art Forum Gallery

A traveling project by Hank Willis Thomas and Dr. Baz Dreisinger that explores the principles of freedom, justice, and humanity. Co-presented with the Institute of the Arts and Sciences at UC Santa Cruz.

Sé'sh Shóto'sh Psí'sh (Muscle, Bone & Sinew)

May 12–September 3, 2023 | Solari Gallery

An exhibition by acclaimed multidisciplinary artist Cannupa Hanska Luger (Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara, Lakota, European) based in myth, science fiction, and Indigenous futurism.

HYBYCOZO

July 20–October 8, 2023 | Art Forum Gallery

An installation of laser-cut sculptures by Yelena Filipchuk and Serge Beaulieu that highlights geometry, mathematics, and patterns in traditional art forms.

Frequency

September 21–24, 2023 | MAH and Abbott Square

The return of the MAH's 4-day biennial festival of light, sound, and digital culture with site-responsive work, live performances, and immersive experiences by local and international artists.

Stream

September 21, 2023–January 7, 2024 | Solari Gallery

A new light-based work by celebrated Belgian artist couple Tom and Lien Dekyvere that explores the relationships between organic and artificial structures.

Werewolf Hunters, Jungle Queens and Space Commandoes:

The Lost Worlds of Women Comics

October 20, 2023–January 7, 2024 | Art Forum Gallery

A collaboration with The Center for Monster Studies at UC Santa Cruz about 20th century female comic book artists, including Lily Renee, Fran Hopper, Marcia Snyder, and Jill Elgin.

CURRENTLY ON VIEW

ReflectionNNN

Through February 24, 2023 | Art Forum Gallery

A new installation by Monica Canilao and Xara Thustra (MCXT) that reimagines the local Venetian Water Carnivals, a Victorian-era spectacle on the San Lorenzo River.

The Writing on the Wall

Through June 10, 2023; Saturdays only | Davenport Jail

An immersive installation by Hank Willis Thomas and Dr. Baz Dreisinger made from writings by incarcerated individuals and displayed across a historic jail-turned-museum. Co-presented with the Institute of the Arts and Sciences at UC Santa Cruz.

Flowers for Incarcerated Mothers

Through June 11, 2023 | Davenport Jail

An art and garden project made in collaboration with artist Jackie Sumell and over two dozen mothers who are incarcerated, many of whom are serving life-sentences. Co-presented with the Institute of the Arts and Sciences 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. Co-presented with The Diversity Center.

The Colaboratory

Ongoing | Lezin Gallery

A gallery space for resource sharing and collaboration that features rotating exhibitions and objects from the MAH's collection. The current project centers around the concept of *kincentricity* as part of a multi-year initiative and partnership with the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band.

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 rotating 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, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Institute of Museum and Library Services, and The David and Lucile Packard Foundation. Additional support comes from individuals and organizations including: Arts Council Santa Cruz County, California Humanities, California State Library, Community Foundation Santa Cruz County, History Forum, The Humanities Institute at UC Santa Cruz, Kaiser Permanente Northern California Community Benefit Programs, National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, Santa Cruz City Arts, Santa Cruz County Bank, and Sereno Charitable Foundation.

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