



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

MAM 38th Benefit Art Auction At the Missoula Art Museum

Presenting Sponsor: US Bank

MAM's 38th Benefit Art Auction: February 27, 5PM Benefit Art Auction Exhibition through February 26

Missoula, MT / January 28, 2010 / Missoula Art Museum (MAM) / MAM is delighted to host the 38th Benefit Art Auction in our dynamic building. The art auction format is both new and ideal for the museum. As MAM's primary fundraiser for the year, the auction supports exhibitions and programming for more than 30,000 visitors annually. The seated, live auction will be held in MAM's Carnegie Galleries.

This special evening will include a culinary celebration of food and wine, unusual silent auction items, enthusiastic bidding, an intermission filled with a fantasy of desserts and champagne, cash bars throughout the galleries, and MAM's newest contemporary art exhibitions. The extensive, tapas-style dinner prepared by the Red Bird has been artfully paired with a luscious palette of wines. Fêted Missoula pianist Shmed Maynes will entertain guests on MAM's hand-built Yamaha grand piano throughout the evening.

The exciting live auction is comprised of fifty-seven contemporary artworks by artists with regional careers and national reputations infusing both the exhibition and the benefit art auction with new energy and perspectives. These original works range from ceramics and sculpture to paintings and photography. Artists include: Jean Albus, Brad Allen, Anne Appleby, Chris Autio, Lela Autio, Lisa Autio, Elizabeth Bass, Courtney Blazon, Jill Brody, Magi Calhoun, Danny Crump, Dudley Dana, Josh DeWeese, Monte Dolack, David Dragonfly, Julie Engler, Nancy Erickson, Caitlin Finley, Tom Foolery, Stephanie Frostad, George Gogas, Paul Guillemette, Kristi Hager, Nancy Halter and Greg Jahn, Dara Harvey, David Herbold, Sarah Jaeger, Peter Keefer, Louise Lamontagne, Kathy Bonnema Leslie, Jon Lodge, Donna Loos, Clay Mahn, Philip Mahn, Bobbie McKibbin, Leslie Van Stavern Millar, Shawna Moore, M.A. Papanek-Miller, Christopher Paquette, Rick Phillips, Jim Poor, Eileen Rafferty, Jerry Rankin, Kayla Romberger, Kerri Rosenstein, Shayna Schapp, Karen Shimoda, Edgar Smith, Elizabeth Stone, Janet Sullivan, Susan Thomas, Shalene Valenzuela, Andree Van Nuys, Don Voisine, Laura Way Wathen, R. David Wilson, and Monte Yellow Bird.

Space is limited. Tickets: \$100 for MAM Members and \$125 for non-members until February 26, 12PM. Tickets at the door: \$150. Proxy bids will be accepted. Visit missoulaartmuseum.org or call 406.728.0447 to purchase tickets.

Contact: For more information please contact the Missoula Art Museum at 406-728-0447, visit the MAM website at www.missoulaartmuseum.org or contact John Calsbeek, Assistant Curator and Preparator, johnc@missoulaartmuseum.org, 406.728.0447 x229 or Kay Grisson-Kiley, Development and Membership Director, kay@missoulaartmuseum.org, 407.728.0447 x 227.

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About MAM: *FREE EXPRESSION // FREE ADMISSION.* MAM serves the public by engaging audiences and artists in the exploration of contemporary art relevant to the community, state and region. Founded in 1975 and accredited by the American Association of Museums since 1987, MAM showcases diverse and thought-provoking contemporary artwork from local and international artists. Gallery Hours: Wed-Fri, 10AM-5PM, Sat, 10AM-3PM. Office hours: Mon-Fri, 9AM-5PM.

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