

# PRESS RELEASE

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Press Contact

**Rachel Eggers**  
Manager of Public Relations  
rachele@seattleartmuseum.org  
206.654.3151

## SEATTLE ART MUSEUM PRESENTS PROGRAMS AND EVENTS FOR JEFFREY GIBSON: LIKE A HAMMER

Highlights include an artist talk, a fashion show of Indigenous designers, and special editions of Remix and Legendary Children



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1300 First Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98101  
206.625.8900  
seattleartmuseum.org

SEATTLE, WA - The Seattle Art Museum presents *Jeffrey Gibson: Like a Hammer* (February 28-May 12, 2019), a major survey of the acclaimed contemporary artist who draws on diverse influences such as abstraction, Indigenous art, queer aesthetics, and pop culture. The exhibition features over 65 works including abstract geometric paintings on rawhide and canvas, beaded punching bags, sculptures, wall hangings, and video.

In conjunction with the exhibition, SAM will present a dynamic lineup of programs for the public, families and caregivers, and schools and educators. Highlights include a free community opening with a talk by the artist; a fashion show spotlighting Indigenous designers; and special editions of popular recurring programs including Remix, a night of eclectic performances, tours, dancing, creating; and Legendary Children, a partnership with the Seattle Public Library celebrating QTPOC (queer and trans people of color) artists.

### RELATED PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Details are subject to change; additional programs or events may be added. Up-to-date information at [visitsam.org/gibson](https://visitsam.org/gibson).

**Wed Feb 27**

***Like a Hammer* Member Preview & Happy Hour**

Noon-8 pm

Seattle Art Museum

Free for SAM members

All SAM members are invited to preview the exhibition before it opens to the public. Exhibition overviews by artist Jeffrey Gibson at 12:30 pm and Catharina Manchanda, Jon and Mary Shirley Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art, at 6 pm. Happy hour in the Brotman Forum 5-8 pm.



**Thu Feb 28**

**Spring Educator Preview: Jeffrey Gibson**

4-7 pm

Seattle Art Museum

Free with RSVP for K-12 educators and teaching artists

SAM invites educators, teaching artists, and arts education advocates to preview the special exhibition, get creative with hands-on art activities, and mingle with peers over wine and hors d'oeuvres. Visit SAM's newly relocated Education Resource Center and explore free resources for your classroom.

**Thu Feb 28**

**Jeffrey Gibson: Like a Hammer Community Opening Celebration**

5-9 pm

Seattle Art Museum

Free with RSVP

The whole community is invited to celebrate the exhibition with a free public opening featuring live performances, music, and art making.

**Thu Feb 28**

**Jeffrey Gibson: Like a Hammer & Next Steps**

7-8 pm

Seattle Art Museum

Free with RSVP

Hear from artist Jeffrey Gibson about the exhibition *Like a Hammer* and the next steps he's exploring in his art, including a screening of new video work.

**Sat Mar 2**

**Family Fun Workshop: Tiny Tots**

10 am-noon; 1-3 pm

Seattle Art Museum

\$15 for one adult and up to two kids; SAM members \$7.50. Additional participants \$5 each (members included)

Participants will take inspiration from the work in *Jeffrey Gibson: Like a Hammer* and *Lessons from the Institute of Empathy*, then weave something to wear. Each workshop begins with a sketching tour in the galleries and is led by a teaching artist. For children aged 3-6 and their caregivers.

**Wed Mar 6-Sun May 12**

**Docent Tours: Like a Hammer**

Daily at 1:15 pm and 2:15 pm

Seattle Art Museum

Free

Join a docent-led tour to discover commonalities between yourself, your community, and the work of Jeffrey Gibson who believes that "we all share similar experiences." Tours will emphasize looking closely and provide cultural context and artistic appreciation.

**Thu Mar 7, Apr 4, May 2**

**Drop-In Studio: Like a Hammer**

6:30-8:30 pm

Seattle Art Museum

Free

Visit SAM on First Thursdays during the run of *Like a Hammer* for a free drop-in art-making session inspired by the exhibition and led by a local artist.

**Sat Mar 9**

**Spring Educator Workshop: Amplifying Student Voice**

10:30 am-4:30pm

Seattle Art Museum

\$40/\$20 SAM members/\$32 students & seniors (65 and over)

Join SAM educators and local experts in considering personal and cultural representation in the exhibition. This workshop includes art-making activities

and curriculum connections to harness student voice through written and visual arts. Designed for K-12 classroom teachers and includes 6 clock hours.

**Sat Mar 23**

**Art Beyond Sight Tour: Jeffrey Gibson**

2-3:30 pm

Seattle Art Museum

Free with advance registration

Art Beyond Sight tours make works of visual art accessible to visitors with low or no vision. In this tour, visitors will explore *Jeffrey Gibson: Like a Hammer* with verbal descriptions complemented with touchable materials and music for a multisensory experience.

**Sat Mar 23**

**Family Fun Workshop: Young Artists**

10 am-noon; 1-3 pm

Seattle Art Museum

\$15 for one adult and up to two kids; SAM members \$7.50. Additional participants \$5 each (members included)

Participants will craft a mixed-media artwork inspired by *Jeffrey Gibson: Like a Hammer*. Each workshop begins with a sketching tour in the galleries and is led by a teaching artist. For children aged 6-10 and their caregivers.

**Fri Mar 29**

**SAM Remix**

8-11:59 pm

Seattle Art Museum

\$30/\$15 SAM members/\$25 students. Tickets sold in advance only.

Get in on this night of eclectic performances, tours, dancing, creating, and exploring SAM's collection and special exhibitions. Become part of Seattle's creative community of artists, performers, and thinkers through this unique museum experience inspired by *Like a Hammer*.

**Thu Apr 4, 11, 18, 25**

**My Favorite Things Tours: Seattle Teens**

6:30-7pm

Seattle Art Museum

Free

My Favorite Things Tours bring some of the most fascinating artists, cultural producers, and community figures into the galleries to discuss their favorite works of art. For *Like a Hammer*, tours will be led by members of Seattle Art Museum's Teen Art Group (TAG) as well as youth from throughout the Seattle community. They'll present their fresh take on the exhibition while exploring creative expressions of empowerment and identity through art and creativity.

**Sat Apr 6**

**Family Fun Workshop: Tiny Tots**

10 am-noon

Seattle Art Museum

\$15 for one adult and up to two kids; SAM members \$7.50. Additional participants \$5 each (members included)

Participants will experiment with painting on nontraditional materials after looking at the artwork in *Like a Hammer* and SAM's permanent collection. Each workshop begins with a sketching tour in the galleries and is led by a teaching artist. For children aged 3-6 and their caregivers.

**Thu Apr 11**

**Grace L. Dillon: Indigenous Futurism**

7-8 pm

Seattle Art Museum

Free with RSVP

Explore the creative genre of Indigenous Futurism across different media including literature, music, and art featuring “Native-centered worlds liberated by the imagination.” The talk will be led by Grace L. Dillon, a professor in the Indigenous Nations Studies Program at Portland State University in Oregon.

**Sat Apr 13**

**Family Fun Workshop: Young Artists**

10 am–noon

Seattle Art Museum

\$15 for one adult and up to two kids; SAM members \$7.50. Additional participants \$5 each (members included)

Participants will immerse themselves in the abstract world of *Like a Hammer* and then create an abstract painting. Each workshop begins with a sketching tour in the galleries and is led by a teaching artist. For children aged 6-10 and their caregivers.

**Fri Apr 26**

**Kitchen Sessions with Imani Sims and CD Forum**

6–10 pm

Seattle Art Museum

Free with RSVP

In celebration of *Like a Hammer*, SAM has partnered with poet and educator Imani Sims and The Central District Forum for Arts and Ideas for an evening exploring themes of the exhibition.

**Sat Apr 27**

**Family Fun Workshop: Tiny Tots**

10 am–noon

Seattle Art Museum

\$15 for one adult and up to two kids; SAM members \$7.50. Additional participants \$5 each (members included)

Participants will discover a colorful world of shapes in Jeffrey Gibson’s abstract paintings in *Like a Hammer*, then create their own geometric work of art. Each workshop begins with a sketching tour in the galleries and is led by a teaching artist. For children aged 3-6 and their caregivers.

Thu May 2

**Lifting the Sky: An Indigenous Fashion Show**

5–8:30 pm

Seattle Art Museum

Free; exhibition admission half-off

Curator Lisa Fruichantie (Seminole/Mvskoke-Creek) brings together Native designers, artists, and performers from across the Pacific Northwest for a night of Indigenous fashion. Watch contemporary styles walk the runway to the beat of a powwow drum, learn about intertribal regalia created by local community members, and shop at an all-Native fashion market. Fashion shows are at 6 pm and 7 pm, and the Native Fashion Market takes place throughout the evening. Presented in partnership with yəhaw.

**Fri May 3**

**Teen Night Out**

7–10 pm

Seattle Art Museum

Free for all high-school aged teens

Planned for teens by teens! At this evening inspired by the special exhibition *Like a Hammer*, teens can listen to some of Seattle’s hottest DJs, take in teen art tours, live music performances, workshops, and art-making activities led by Seattle’s celebrated contemporary artists.

**Fri May 10**

**Legendary Children**

8–11 pm

Seattle Art Museum

Seattle QTPOC artists present a night of the beautiful, the transgressive, and the unique through performances and conversations touching on themes brought up by *Jeffrey Gibson: Like a Hammer*. Presented in partnership with Seattle Public Library.

**Sat May 11**

**Family Fun Workshop: Young Artists**

10 am–noon

Seattle Art Museum

\$15 for one adult and up to two kids; SAM members \$7.50. Additional participants \$5 each (members included)

Participants will explore the words and lyrics in the artworks of *Jeffrey Gibson: Like a Hammer* and then screen-print a message of their own. Each workshop begins with a sketching tour in the galleries and is led by a teaching artist. For children aged 6-10 and their caregivers.

**EXHIBITION ORGANIZATION AND SUPPORT**

*Jeffrey Gibson: Like a Hammer* is organized by the Denver Art Museum.

The exhibition premiered at the Denver Art Museum (May 13, 2018–August 12, 2018) and then traveled to the Mississippi Museum of Art (September 8, 2018–January 20, 2019). After SAM, it heads to the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art (June 7–September 14, 2019).

Special exhibitions at SAM are made possible by donors to

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**Image credits:** *AMERICAN HISTORY (JB)*, 2015, Jeffrey Gibson, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians/Cherokee, b. 1972, wool, steel studs, glass beads, artificial sinew, metal jingles, acrylic yarn, nylon fringe, and canvas, 89 × 66 × 5 in., Lent by the Lewis Family, image courtesy of Jeffrey Gibson Studio and Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, California, photo: Peter Mauney. *CAN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF OF YOU*, 2015, Jeffrey Gibson, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians/Cherokee, b. 1972, high fire glazed ceramic, repurposed tipi poles, wool, acrylic paint, wool blanket, glass beads, artificial sinew, copper jingles, and nylon fringe, 72 × 29 × 38 in., Collection of Vicki and Kent Logan, image courtesy of Jeffrey Gibson Studio and Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, California, photo: Peter Mauney.

**ABOUT SEATTLE ART MUSEUM**

As the leading visual art institution in the Pacific Northwest, SAM draws on its global collections, powerful exhibitions, and dynamic programs to provide unique educational resources benefiting the Seattle region, the Pacific Northwest, and beyond. SAM was founded in 1933 with a focus on Asian art. By the late 1980s the museum had outgrown its original home, and in 1991 a new 155,000-square-foot downtown building, designed by Venturi, Scott Brown & Associates, opened to the public. The 1933 building was renovated and

reopened as the Asian Art Museum in 1994. SAM's desire to further serve its community was realized in 2007 with the opening of two stunning new facilities: the nine-acre Olympic Sculpture Park (designed by Weiss/Manfredi Architects)—a “museum without walls,” free and open to all—and the Allied Works Architecture designed 118,000-square-foot expansion of its main, downtown location, including 232,000 square feet of additional space built for future expansion. The Olympic Sculpture Park and SAM's downtown expansion celebrated their tenth anniversary in 2017.

From a strong foundation of Asian art to noteworthy collections of African and Oceanic art, Northwest Coast Native American art, European and American art, and modern and contemporary art, the strength of SAM's collection of approximately 25,000 objects lies in its diversity of media, cultures, and time periods.