

# PRESS RELEASE

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## SEATTLE ART MUSEUM (SAM) ANNOUNCES 2022 LINEUP OF EXHIBITION OPENINGS

Highlights include Alberto Giacometti and Dawoud Bey & Carrie Mae Weems exhibitions



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SEATTLE, WA - The Seattle Art Museum (SAM) announced today its full lineup of exhibitions opening in 2022. Newly announced are the two special exhibitions for the summer and fall periods at the downtown museum, the first of which features the work of modern artist Alberto Giacometti and the other the work of contemporary artists Dawoud Bey and Carrie Mae Weems in a dual exhibition. These two exhibitions round out the downtown special exhibition calendar, following the spring presentation of *Our Blue Planet: Global Visions of Water*, which explores the theme of water through art from around the globe.

Other highlights include the October debut of SAM's dramatic reimagining of its American art galleries, the result of a collaborative process among SAM curators and staff, artists, and advisors from the Seattle community, and the solo exhibition for Seattle artist Anthony White, recipient of the 2021 Betty Bowen Award, which is given annually to a Pacific Northwest artist.

### HIGHLIGHTS

*Our Blue Planet: Global Visions of Water*

March 18-May 30, 2022

Seattle Art Museum



This special exhibition explores the many ways artists around the world have engaged with the theme of water. It features works from SAM's collection and three local lenders, with over 80 works of art— including video, sculpture, textiles, paintings, ceramics, and photographs— from 16 countries and seven Native American tribes. The works date from ancient to contemporary times, including work by 46 living artists and two contemporary works acquired specifically for the exhibition.



*Alberto Giacometti: Toward the Ultimate Figure*

July 14–October 9, 2022

Seattle Art Museum

This special exhibition presents the iconic and philosophical explorations of the human form by Alberto Giacometti (1901–1966), focusing on his major achievements during the postwar years including sculpture, painting, and drawing. The exhibition is co-organized by the Fondation Giacometti in Paris and the Cleveland Museum of Art; SAM is the second and only West Coast stop on its North American tour.

American Art Reinstallation (Title TBA)

Opens October 2022

Seattle Art Museum



SAM presents a transformation of its American art galleries, created through an unprecedented collaboration among SAM curators and staff, artists, and advisors from the Seattle community. Funded primarily by a \$1 million grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the project features work from SAM's collection and new works and curation by contemporary artists, and it deepens the museum's commitment to inclusive

exhibition-planning practices with a shared-authorship model that reflects and responds to community knowledge.

*Dawoud Bey & Carrie Mae Weems: In Dialogue*

November 17, 2022–January 22, 2023

Seattle Art Museum



This special exhibition presents a focused selection of works from longtime intellectual colleagues Dawoud Bey and Carrie Mae Weems, two of the most significant photo-based contemporary American artists working today. Both born in 1953, Bey and Weems both explore ideas grounded in the experiences of Black people refracted through issues of gender, class, and systems of power. The exhibition presents a series of

thematic explorations of their distinct yet overlapping concerns and approaches. The exhibition is organized by the Grand Rapids Art Museum; SAM is the third stop on its US tour.

ALSO ON VIEW

*Embodied Change: South Asian Art Across Time*

January 14–July 10, 2022  
Seattle Asian Art Museum



This is the first show curated by Natalia Di Pietrantonio, SAM's Assistant Curator of South Asian Art, which is a new position at the museum. Featuring works from SAM's collection and local loans, the installation features work from the third millennium BCE to present day in a range of diverse material including terracotta, wood, metal, painting, photography, and video. They all depict the human body and its possibilities for transformation.

*Semiotics of the Street*

February 4–July 17, 2022  
Seattle Art Museum



Photographers have been drawn to the street—its signage, shops, and window displays—throughout the 20th century. This installation features 30 works, beginning with the photographs of Eugène Atget—one of the first artists to extensively explore street photography at the turn of the century—before showcasing Depression-era photojournalism and urban photography of the 1950s to 1970s by iconic American photographers

including Walker Evans, Dorothea Lange, Roy DeCarava, Helen Levitt, and Victor Gardaya.

*Lauren Halsey: 2021 Knight | Lawrence Prize Winner*

February 4–July 17, 2022  
Seattle Art Museum



Lauren Halsey is the recipient of the 2021 Gwendolyn Knight and Jacob Lawrence Prize, awarded biannually since 2009 to an early career Black artist—defined loosely as an artist in the first decade of their career. The artist receives a \$10,000 award and a solo exhibition in the Gwendolyn Knight & Jacob Lawrence Gallery. A Los Angeles-based artist, Halsey works in sculpture, installation, and architecture, including site-specific projects.

*Icons of the Desert: 50 Years of Papunya Tula Paintings*

Opens April 15, 2022

Seattle Art Museum



50,000 years of Indigenous knowledge were largely ignored until 1971, so elders in the central deserts of Australia began to paint. Their results are both contemporary and ancient, encouraging outsiders to see their country as full of eternal vitality. SAM's selection will cover the last 50 years of this flourishing movement by the oldest living culture on earth.

*Indigenous Matrix: Northwest Women Printmakers*

June 15-December 11, 2022

Seattle Art Museum



Delight in the bold graphics and striking colors of Northwest Native silkscreen prints with this installation of contemporary works by Indigenous women. Although Inuit women have been a driving force in printmaking since its inception in the 1950s, Northwest Coast printmaking has been largely dominated by men for both community and commercial uses. This installation brings to light the unique contributions of several women artists whose imagery divulges personal experiences, complex mythologies, and unfettered expression, pushing styles and subjects into new directions that continue to inspire a new generation of Native artists. This exhibition is curated by Kari Karsten, a member of the Seneca nation and an Emerging Museum Professional Curatorial Intern at SAM.

*Beyond the Mountain: Contemporary Chinese Artists on the Classical Forms*

July 22, 2022-June 2023

Seattle Asian Art Museum



In Chinese art, the past is often a source of inspiration and sometimes also a means for expressing resistance to status quos. Works by the contemporary artists in this exhibition reanimate China's material, visual, and linguistic legacies with contemplations on the social costs of modernity and globalization, of migrating from one place and culture to another, and the challenge that humans represent to the natural world. This exhibition was

developed in collaboration with University of Washington students.

Anthony White: 2021 Betty Bowen Award Winner  
 August 5, 2022–January 29, 2023  
 Seattle Art Museum



Anthony White is the winner of the 2021 Betty Bowen Award, a juried award for Northwest artists that comes with an unrestricted cash award of \$15,000 and a solo exhibition at SAM. In White's work, composed of PLA plastic, consumer items and brand symbols that define our moment coalesce to offer a reflection of society through the lens of social media, cell phones, and selfies.

**Image credits:** *The Nose*, 1947-49, Alberto Giacometti, Swiss, 1901-1966, bronze, painted metal, cotton rope, 80.9 x 70.5 x 40.6 cm., Fondation Giacometti, © Succession Alberto Giacometti/ADAGP, Paris, 2021. *Couple in Prospect Park*, 1990 (printed 2018), Dawoud Bey, American, born 1953, gelatin silver print, 21 7/8 x 17 1/2 inches, Grand Rapids Art Museum, museum purchase, 2018.22. © Dawoud Bey, courtesy of Stephen Daiter Gallery. *Awa Province, Naruto Whirlpools (Awa, Naruto no fuha)*, from the series *Famous Views of the Sixty-odd Provinces (Rokujuyoshu meisho zue)*, 1855, Utagawa Hiroshige, woodblock print: ink and color on paper framed: 14 1/8 x 9 1/4 in., Gift of Mary and Allan Kollar, in honor of the 75th Anniversary of the Seattle Art Museum, 2017.23.20. Installation view of the American Art galleries at Seattle Art Museum, 2021, © Seattle Art Museum, photo: Jueqian Fang. *Harlem Street*, 1976-77, Carrie Mae Weems, American, born 1953, gelatin silver print, 5 5/16 x 8 15/16 inches, © Carrie Mae Weems, courtesy of the artist and Jack Shainman Gallery, New York. Installation view of *Kali (I'm a Mess)* (2020) by Chila Kumari Burman in *Embodied Change: South Asian Art Across Time* at Seattle Asian Art Museum, 2022, photo: Natali Wiseman. *London*, 1950, Robert Frank, gelatin silver photograph, 10 7/8 x 14 1/8 in. The Seattle Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts, 77.72 © Robert Frank. Installation view of *Lauren Halsey* at Seattle Art Museum, 2022, photo: Natali Wiseman. *Yunarla*, 2010, Yukultji Napangati, Synthetic polymer paint on canvas, 42 1/8 x 48 1/16 in., Gift of Margaret Levi and Robert Kaplan, 2019.20.7, © Artist or Artist's Estate. *Raelene*, 1999, Francis Dick, silkscreen print, 24 x 18 in., Gift of Simon Ottenberg, 2014.4.7, © Artist or Artist's Estate. *To Add One Meter to an Anonymous Mountain*, 1995, Zhang Huan, chromogenic print on Fuji archival paper, 50 7/8 x 71 in. Gift of the Contemporary Art Project, Seattle, 2002.23 © Zhang Huan. *QUIET HOUR*, 2021, Anthony White, PLA (polylactic acid) on panel, 60 x 60 x 1 1/2 in., Courtesy of the artist and Greg Kucera Gallery, © Anthony White.

## 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 rededicated as the Asian Art Museum in 1994, and it reopened on February 8, 2020 following an extensive renovation and expansion. 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.