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YEARS



MESA ARTS CENTER



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum Spring 2025 Exhibitions Opening Reception Friday, May 23 | 7–10 p.m.**



Image credit: Lisa Curnow, "Court of Luna," 2025, 33 x 28 inches.

Additional high-res images [here](#).

**Mesa, AZ** – Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum celebrates the opening of seven new exhibitions and installations featuring artists **Sara Hubbs**, **Kazuki Takizawa** and **Korina Oswald** alongside "**Art Glass in the Desert**," showcasing works by current and former Art Studios faculty, volunteers and resident artists; "**Fire to Form**," a group exhibition highlighting glass artists from across Arizona; "**American Glass Now: 2025**," a juried exhibition organized in collaboration with the American Glass Guild; and "**Exploring the Process**," an educational exhibition about glass techniques.

The free opening reception on **Friday, May 23, 2025, from 7–10 p.m.**, includes musical entertainment, light refreshments and a cash bar.

## **Summer 2025 Exhibitions:**

### **“Fire to Form”**

April 4–Aug. 3, 2025

Artists across Arizona have made significant contributions to the innovation and mastery of glass art. They have established a vibrant and creative community that continually expands the possibilities of this medium. The powerhouse of skill and imagination represented through these artists showcases the diverse range of forms that can be achieved. From lampwork to glass tapestries, cast to blown, traditional glass neon to contemporary fusion, sandblasting and hot-sculpted, “Fire to Form” aims to underscore the evolving yet timeless nature of glass.

### **“Art Glass in the Desert”**

April 18–Aug. 3, 2025

Celebrating our 20th Anniversary at Mesa Arts Center, “Art Glass in the Desert” features works from a selection of current and former faculty, volunteers, resident artists and visiting artists who have contributed to a 20-year tradition of glass at Mesa Arts Center. Mesa Arts Center was an early adopter when it embraced art glass as a creative discipline all those years ago and it continues to be a hub for glass education in the Sonoran Desert.

### **“American Glass Now: 2025”**

May 9–Aug. 3, 2025

“American Glass Now: 2025” showcases the skill and creativity of artists working in the challenging material of glass. Organized with the American Glass Guild, this juried exhibition includes work in a wide range of techniques including stained glass, fused and kiln formed glass and etched and painted glass. Jurors selected works based on the creative use of materials, originality, aesthetic impact and the complexity of execution.

### **“here. now. close.”**

**Sara Hubbs**

May 9–Aug. 3, 2025

“here. now. close.” is a relational sound and object installation based on the simple shape of a heart. The title is inspired by research into neural bereavement — a term that describes the changes in the brain when grieving. The work traces our experience of loss through three dimensions: space (here), time (now) and attachment (close). The installation pays special attention to the last measurement — closeness — outlining the invisible contours of grief.

### **“Shedding Light”**

**Korina Oswald**

May 9, 2025–May 17, 2026

Artist Korina Oswald was invited by the American Glass Guild to share her third Community Collaborative Project for their 2025 exhibition at Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum. This snake installation consists of 509 artists who contributed to the project, each creating a unique glass piece.

### **“Breaking the Silence III”**

Kazuki Takizawa

May 23, 2025–Jan. 15, 2026

Kazuki Takizawa, Los Angeles-based Japanese artist living with bipolar disorder, developed “Breaking the Silence III” to bring awareness to the topic of suicide prevention. Takizawa’s glass installation consists of an approximately 8-foot-long table constructed out of blown and pressed glass components. The installation also includes a water feature that continuously drips water evenly across the surface of the glass table, filling and overflowing from the glass vessels for the duration of the exhibit. The artist intended to include this element of sound to be the focal point of the piece, literally breaking the silence around this topic of suicide prevention in hopes to reduce the stigma that is often associated with it.

### **“Exploring the Process”**

May 23–Aug. 3, 2025

This gallery is for visitors to view a selection of tools and materials involved in making glass art and learn about the various techniques utilized by artists. Organized by the American Glass Guild.

### **Summer 2025 Programming:**

#### **Artist Talk: Kazuki Takizawa**

May 25 | 1–2 p.m. | Dobson Lecture Hall

Come learn from artist Kazuki Takizawa featured in “Breaking the Silence III” as he shares more about his previous installations, his creative practice and the influences that shape his extraordinary work. Q&A and gallery walk through will follow the talk.

#### **Family Day at the Museum**

June 14 | 10 a.m.–noon

Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum welcomes you to join us in celebrating the Season of Glass! Explore light by making your own suncatcher, experiment with sound through eclectic sound bottles and try your hand at our water xylophone. Artist Sara Hubbs will take families on brief tours of her exhibition, “here. now. close.” Enjoy a day of art exploring and experimenting with the whole family.

#### **Artist Talk: Sara Hubbs**

June 15 | 1–2 p.m. | Dobson Lecture Hall

Join us for an artist talk with Sara Hubbs, featured in the exhibition, “here. now. close.” Learn more about her work, the research that inspired the title of the exhibition and how

art can explore connections within the grieving process. Q&A and gallery walk through will follow the talk.

**Artist Talk: Lily Reeves**

July 20 | 1–2 p.m. | Dobson Lecture Hall

Join us for an intriguing artist talk with Lily Reeves. Reeves will speak about her inspiration, past work and new pieces in the exhibition "Fire to Form." Q&A and gallery walk-through will follow the talk.

**Artist Talk: Brooke Breyfogle**

Aug. 2 | 1–2 p.m. | Dobson Lecture Hall

Join us for a fun artist talk with Brooke Breyfogle, local kiln-formed glass artist and instructor at Mesa Art Center studios and featured in "Art Glass in the Desert." Brooke will talk about her adventure as a GenX 50-something emerging artist, how she recognized her passion and need to create art later in life, and bringing her lived experience into her work. Q&A and gallery walk following the talk.

The summer 2025 Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum season is sponsored by Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Arizona Glass Alliance and Milkweed Arts.

**Museum hours:**

Mon: CLOSED

Tue–Sat: 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Sun: Noon–5 p.m.

For more information, visit [mesaartscenter.com/mcam](https://mesaartscenter.com/mcam) or call 480-644-6560.

Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum is located at 1 East Main Street in downtown Mesa, AZ. Admission is always free.

**About Mesa Arts Center**

Mesa Arts Center, owned and operated by the City of Mesa, is a unique, architecturally stunning facility located in the heart of downtown Mesa. Arizona's largest arts center is home to four theaters, five art galleries and 14 art studios. Guests, patrons and students come to Mesa Arts Center to enjoy the finest live entertainment and performances, world-class visual art exhibitions and outstanding arts education classes. Mesa Arts Center's mission is to create meaningful arts experiences in Mesa for everyone. For more information, visit [mesaartscenter.com](https://mesaartscenter.com).

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