



MINNESOTA
MUSEUM of
AMERICAN ART

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Minnesota Museum of American Art Announces Its 2019-20 Exhibition Season

St. Paul, MN, August 12, 2019: Minnesota Museum of American Art (the M) is pleased to announce its 2019-20 exhibition season, featuring a broad sweep of local, national, and international artists and themes. The exhibitions listed below will be presented in three distinct areas of the museum: the Main Gallery, Henrietta Schmoll Rauenhorst Court, and the Josephine Adele Ford Center for Creativity.



MINNESOTA MUSEUM of AMERICAN ART

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SEPT. 12 – JAN. 5

History Is Not Here: Art and the Arab Imaginary

Co-presented by the M and Mizna

Main Gallery

Sept. 12, 2019 – Jan. 5, 2020

History Is Not Here presents the work of artists who engage the “Arab imaginary” as a strategy for examining various social, cultural, and political positions. Through painting, drawing, photography, sculpture, book art, installation, and video, these 17 artists, working in the U.S. and abroad, make connections between contemporary geopolitics and the histories that inform them. The exhibition rejects the idea of history as a fixed category and looks to alternative imagery and language structures from which new “imaginaries” can be generated. Coinciding with the twentieth anniversary of Mizna, a St. Paul-based Arab cultural organization, and co-presented by Minnesota Museum of American Art, this exhibition’s roster is selected from artists featured in the pages of Mizna’s art and literary journal over the years. *History Is Not Here: Art and the Arab Imaginary* is curated by Mizna’s visual art curator, Berlin-based artist and scholar Heba Y. Amin, and Maymanah Farhat, a writer and independent curator based in New York. This exhibition is supported, in part, with generous funding from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, St. Paul Cultural STAR, Marbrook Foundation, and the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.



Partners in Action: A Community Exhibition
Ford Center for Creativity
Oct. 3 - 27, 2019

The M joined forces with several St. Paul-based organizations to build relationships with three specific communities in the city through artist residencies focused on reciprocity, social interaction, creativity, and cultural responsiveness. This special exhibition is the

culmination of months of work with the M's organizational partners, community participants, and resident teaching artists: Createch at Arlington Hills Public Library with Witt Siasoco; Hallie Q. Brown Community Center with Nicole M. Smith and Larry Waddell; and Hmong Museum and Hmong Elders Center with Hlee Lee-Kron. This exhibition and affiliated work with our partners is funded by an Arts Access grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board.



Sherin Guirguis: Here I Have Returned
Rauenhorst Court
Oct. 3, 2019 - March 1, 2020

Building on her longtime interest in mining lost histories, this Egypt-born, L.A.-based artist will fill the museum's two-story Rauenhorst Court with an installation of hand-cut works on paper and sculpture, inspired by a largely forgotten writer and leader of the Egyptian feminist movement,

Doria Shafik (1908-1975). These new works merge several broad themes and interests evident in Guirguis's body of work, including architectural design, craft traditions, language, and poetry.



A Choice of Weapons, Honor and Dignity: The Visions of Gordon Parks and Jamel Shabazz
Main Gallery
Jan. 23 - April 19, 2020

This exhibition includes photographs that document expressions of dignity, honor, hope, and love in the African-American community by two towering photographers. Featured works include Gordon Parks's astonishing images from the Jim Crow-era through the civil rights movement, and photographs by Brooklyn artist

Jamel Shabazz, who has followed in Parks's footsteps from the 1980s to the present day. *A Choice of Weapons, Honor and Dignity* explores how Parks and Shabazz have both used photography to empower communities and lift up Black voices. The exhibition is curated by Robin Hickman, CEO and Executive Producer of SoulTouch Productions and a great-niece of Gordon Parks. Hickman first collaborated with the M in 1998 on the landmark traveling exhibition *Half Past Autumn: The Life and Works of Gordon Parks*, helping to bring the show to St. Paul.

Gordon Parks in St. Paul
Rauenhorst Court
March 7 – April 19, 2020

This companion exhibition will focus on Gordon Parks's rich history in St. Paul, centered on his photography from the 1930s and early '40s documenting life in the city's historically African-American Rondo neighborhood, where he lived, on and off, from 1928 – 1941.

Hickman is involved in additional local organizations' programming honoring Gordon Parks this winter, including a new production by History Theatre and an exhibition in the works at Landmark Center, featuring art by young Black men and boys affiliated with local organizations, including In the Footsteps of Gordon Parks Legacy Movement / CHOICE of Weapons Arts and Media Fellowship, Gordon Parks High School, the Council on Black Male Success. Marketing strategy and graphic design for these exhibitions is provided by interns from the BrandLab, a local nonprofit whose mission is to introduce, guide, and prepare diverse students for creative careers in marketing and communications: Elijah Buchanan (2019 graduate of Highland Park High School), Waylon Rembert Jr. (12th grade, Johnson Senior High School), and Charvaye Williams (2019 graduate of Como Park Senior High School).

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Water: A Minnesota Biennial
Main Gallery
Opening May 2020

Minnesota Museum of American Art is reviving its longstanding tradition of statewide biennials with a juried exhibition of work by local artists on the theme of "water." Look for additional details on this snapshot survey of the Minnesota art scene in the coming months!

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Honors Visual Art Exhibition
Ford Center for Creativity
Opening May 2020

The M, in partnership with St. Paul Public Schools (SPPS) and Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, presents an exhibition of selected artworks in a variety of mediums by SPPS Honors art students. This annual showcase celebrates students' artistic skill and talents.

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For regularly updated information on current and upcoming exhibitions, classes, and programs at the M, visit mmaa.org.

Minnesota Museum of American Art is one of the oldest visual arts organizations in Minnesota, with roots stretching back to the 19th century. Based in St. Paul, the M currently holds more than 5,000 artworks that showcase the unique voices of American artists, guided by the belief that art should reflect the constantly shifting landscape that defines the American experience. The M opened its new museum facility in the Historic Pioneer Endicott in December 2018 and will expand further, with additional permanent collection galleries scheduled to open in 2020.

Free Admission * 350 Robert Street North, St. Paul, MN, 55101 * [Directions & Parking](#)
Open Wed., Fri., Sat. & Sun., 11 – 5 | Thurs., 11 – 8; closed Mon. & Tues.