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**NEVADA MUSEUM OF ART ANNOUNCES *LAND ART: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURES*,
ITS FIRST SEASON-LONG ART + ENVIRONMENT EVENT, SEPTEMBER 23 – NOVEMBER 19**

**Expanded into a Subscription Series, Signature Initiative Will Encompass 13 Virtual Discussions,
5 Gallery Exhibitions, a Live Performance in Las Vegas, and a Major Publication**

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Justin Favela, *Family Fiesta: Double Negative*, 2015, Documentation of performance inside of Michael Heizer's *Double Negative*.
Courtesy of the artist © Justin Favela. Photo credit: Mikayla Whitmore

Reno, Nev. (May 26, 2021) – The Nevada Museum of Art in Reno, Nevada, today announced that it is expanding its signature Art + Environment Conference from a weekend event into a two-month subscription season, featuring both virtual and in-person components. Organized under the auspices of the Museum's Center for Art + Environment, *Land Art: Past, Present, Futures* will be presented from September 23 through November 19, 2021, offering multiple new opportunities for a global community of artists, scholars, writers, designers, and art enthusiasts to look at, talk about, and reflect upon our interaction with the natural world and the built environment.

In the years since its first presentation in 2008, the A + E Conference has won international recognition as the premier event in its field, held in the state whose terrain has inspired historic and contemporary Land Art interventions from the early monumental works of Michael Heizer and Walter De Maria to the recent sculptures of Ugo Rondinone. The Conference has consistently sparked new scholarship, provoked fresh thinking, and helped forge productive partnerships.

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The 2021 A + E Season will encompass 13 virtual discussions and talks by 25 distinguished speakers, five gallery exhibitions in Reno, a live outdoor performance in Las Vegas by Rose B. Simpson, and a major publication: a 256-page, lavishly illustrated book, published by the Museum and Monacelli, titled *Gianfranco Gorgoni: Land Art*, featuring an essay by the late Germano Celant.

“This move to a multifaceted season is an invitation to people everywhere to delve into an increased roster of discussions, experience a wider range of compelling artworks, and join in our expanded community,” said David B. Walker, CEO of the Nevada Museum of Art. “Participants in the season will both deepen people’s appreciation of now-classic works of Land Art and also open new, contemporary perspectives on critical issues in the field.”

Framing the A + E Season, and establishing the challenging terms for its discussions, are two major 2018 acquisitions by the Museum:

- a lifetime collection of Land Art contact sheets and full set of 50 now-classic large-scale prints by photographer Gianfranco Gorgoni, whose images brought worldwide attention in the 1960s and 70s to the work of Michael Heizer, Walter De Maria, Robert Smithson, and others
- and the archive of Judy Chicago’s ephemeral, outdoor *Atmospheres* projects, also inaugurated in the late 1960s, which she initiated to “soften” the heroic male posture of Land Art

Drawing on these sources and many others, speakers in *Land Art: Past, Present, Futures* will consider issues including the histories of these sites, Indigenous people’s relationships to the land, the politics of borders and migration, gender attitudes and environmentalism, and the high cost of an art movement begun in defiance of the market. Helping to inform the presentations will be the history of the Museum’s recent multi-year projects with Ugo Rondinone, Maya Lin, Helen Mayer and Newton Harrison, Trevor Paglen, and Lita Albuquerque, and recent acquisitions of artworks and archival materials from Andrea Zittel’s High Desert Test Sites group, Cannupa Hanska Luger, Cauleen Smith, Milton Becerra, Postcommodity, Nancy Holt, Agnes Denes, Reko Rennie, and Cai Guo-Qiang.

Presentations will begin on September 23 with a conversation between Land Art scholars Philipp Kaiser and Miwon Kwon, offering a global overview of Land Art, and will conclude on November 19 with a lecture by critic Lucy R. Lippard on “Land Art: Overlooking, Overlaying.” Other speakers throughout the season, in addition to the Museum’s William L. Fox, JoAnne Northrup, and Ann M. Wolfe, will include Lisa Le Feuvre and Kelly Kivland on “Earthworks for the Present” (September 30), Cauleen Smith and Cameron Shaw on “Earthworks and the Erasure of History” (October 1), Justin Favela and Emmanuel Ortega on “New Monuments for a Future Generation” (October 8), Edgar Arceneaux and Julian Myers-Szupinska on “Michael Heizer’s Misfortune in Detroit” (October 14), Judy Chicago and Chad Alligood on “Softening the Land Art Scene: Judy Chicago’s *Atmospheres*” (October 21), Mary Miss and Patricia Johanson with Leigh Arnold moderating on “No Man’s Land: Women of Land Art” (October 22), Oscar Tuazon and Rupert Steele on “The Water School at Cedar Springs” (October 28), Cannupa Hanska Luger and Raven Chacon on “Performing Land: Towards an Indigenous Future” (October 29), Brooke Hodge and Lisa Anne Auerbach on “Disturbances in the Field: Art in the High Desert from Andrea Zittel’s A-Z West to High Desert Test Sites” (November 5), Emily Eliza Scott and Suzaan Boettger on “Land Art’s Evolving Relationship to Environmentalism” (November 12), and Rose B. Simpson on “Clay, Place, and Cultural Survival” (November 18).

Exhibitions on view throughout the season and into 2022 at the Nevada Museum of Art will be the contemporary survey *Land Art: Expanding the Atlas*; *Gianfranco Gorgoni: Land Art Photographs*; *Judy Chicago: Dry Ice, Smoke, and Fireworks Archive*; *Disturbances in the Field: Art in the High Desert from Andrea Zittel’s A-Z West to High Desert Test Sites*; and *Rose B. Simpson: The Four*. As an extension of *The Four*, Simpson will present a “transformance”—an artistic performance aimed at public transformation—at an outdoor site in Las Vegas. Simpson, who has Indigenous ancestral ties to the Southwestern United States, will join with members of the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe to confront colonial narratives and issues related to land sovereignty, justice, inclusion, and human dignity.

Subscriptions to the 2021 A + E Season include the option to receive *Season in a Box*, a commemorative package that includes the new book *Gianfranco Gorgoni: Land Art Photographs* edited by Ann M. Wolfe, the Andrea and John C. Deane Family Senior Curator and Deputy Director of the Nevada Museum of Art, and the comprehensive 2019 Monacelli Press book *Michael Heizer: The Once and Future Monuments* by William L. Fox, the Peter E. Pool Director of the Center for Art + Environment at the Nevada Museum of Art.

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For a complete schedule of virtual discussions in *Land Art: Past, Present, Futures*, descriptions of exhibitions, and subscription information, please visit the A + E Season website [HERE](#). For further information on the book *Gianfranco Gorgoni: Land Art Photographs*, please visit the Museum's shop [HERE](#).

The Nevada Museum of Art is located in the Great Basin on the occupied lands of Indigenous people. The state of Nevada consists of 27 federally recognized tribes from four nations: the *Numu*, *Newe*, *Wašišiw*, and *Nuwu*, also known as the Northern Paiute, Shoshone, Washoe, and Southern Paiute people. We respect Indigenous elders past and present, recognize their deep connections to these places, and acknowledge that these lands continue to be a gathering place for Indigenous people.

Major sponsors of the Art + Environment season *Land Art: Past, Present, Futures* include the Carol Franc Buck Foundation, Charles and Margaret Burbach Foundation, The Cashman Family, The Jacquie Foundation, Kim Sinatra + Family, Six Talents Foundation, and The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. Additional sponsors include Barbara and Tad Danz, The Board of Trustees of the Nevada Museum of Art in tribute to David Walker, Kathryn A. Hall and Laurel Trust Company, Maureen Mullarkey and Steve Miller, Linda and Alvaro Pascotto, and Meg and Earl Tarble. Supporting sponsors include Kathie Bartlett, Peter E. Pool, and Karyn and Lance Tendler. Additional support is provided by Elaine Cardinale. ArtTable is a promotional partner.

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About Nevada Museum of Art

The **Nevada Museum of Art** is the only art museum in Nevada accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM). A private, nonprofit organization founded in 1931, the statewide institution is supported by its membership as well as sponsorships, gifts and grants. Through its permanent collections, original exhibitions and programming, and E.L. Cord Museum School, the Nevada Museum of Art provides meaningful opportunities for people to engage with a range of art and education experiences. The Museum's **Center for Art + Environment** is an internationally recognized research center dedicated to supporting the practice, study, and awareness of creative interactions between people and their environments. The Center houses unique archive materials from more than 1,500 artists working on all seven continents, including Cape Farewell, Michael Heizer, Walter de Maria, Lita Albuquerque, Burning Man, the Center for Land Use Interpretation, Great Basin Native Artists Archive, Ugo Rondinone's *Seven Magic Mountains*, and Trevor Paglen's *Orbital Reflector*. Learn more at nevadaart.org.