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RODRIGO CASS'S FIRST SOLO U.S. MUSEUM EXHIBITION OPENS AT NEVADA MUSEUM OF ART

Reno, Nev. (September 3, 2025) – The Nevada Museum of Art is proud to present the first solo museum exhibition in the United States by interdisciplinary Brazilian artist **Rodrigo Cass** (b. 1983), on view **October 4 - November 2, 2025**. Rooted in 20th century Brazilian modernist movements and shaped by nearly a decade of monastic life, Cass's art is both physical and spiritual. His is the latest exhibition in the visiting artist series hosted by esteemed art collectors and patrons Pamela Joyner and Fred Giuffrida.

Working in a unique medium of concrete blended with pure pigment, Cass manipulates the concrete into a paint-like substance. He applies the mixture to linen, and creates textured, richly colored surfaces that invite viewers to explore the intersections of line, color, shape, and perception. His works offer a contemplative counterpoint to the purely formal concerns of geometric abstraction, instead channeling a sense of mysticism and poetic inquiry. Cass considers concrete to be the synthesis of his artistic mindset: a spiritual element, living and breathing.

From 2000 to 2008, Cass lived as a monk in the Carmelite order in southeastern Brazil—a formative chapter that continues to shape his artistic vision. His early video works documented repetitive gestures with everyday objects, echoing the meditative rhythms of monastic life. This exhibition builds upon those early explorations, bringing together geometric shapes in diverse media to create an immersive environment, and creating a spatial and emotional journey for inner reflection.

"Cass's work offers a space for viewers to slow down, look closely, and experience the quiet power of abstraction," said Apsara DiQuinzio, senior curator at the Nevada Museum of Art. "His unique material process, exploration of color, combined with a contemplative approach transforms the gallery into a resonant place of vibrant poetry."

On October 4, 2025, at 6 pm, the Museum will host an unforgettable evening with Cass who will do a special performance, followed by a public talk to between Rodrigo Cass and Amanda

Carneiro, curator at the Museu de Arte de São Paulo (MASP) and artistic organizer of the 60th international Art Exhibition, La Biennale di Venezia. As a prelude to the event, artist Paulo Von Poser will enact a performance with a drone.

For more information, visit nevadaart.org.

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ABOUT THE JOYNER/GIUFRIDA VISITING ARTIST PROGRAM

Rodrigo Cass lives in São Paulo and is the fourth artist featured at the Nevada Museum of Art through a program developed in partnership with patrons Pamela J. Joyner and Alfred J. Giuffrida. The residency program fosters dynamic conversations around contemporary art and includes artist residencies, public programs, and exhibitions of newly created work.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Rodrigo Cass (b. 1983, Brazil) lives and works in São Paulo. In 2006 he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Plastic Arts at the Faculdade Santa Marcelina in São Paulo and studied Philosophy and Theology at the Faculdade Jesuítas in Belo Horizonte from 2007 to 2008.

Rodrigo Cass was a monk in the Carmelite Religious Order of São Paulo from 2000 to 2008 where he learned to paint Byzantine religious icon paintings with tempera paint. Influenced by philosophy and art history, Cass utilizes painting, sculpture, and video to explore the concreteness of things – extracting the color, texture, weight, function, and movement (or lack thereof) of concrete to manifest the formal language of his expression.

Cass has had solo exhibitions at Anthony Meier Fine Arts, San Francisco; Centro Cultural São Paulo, São Paulo; Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel, Galpão, São Paulo; Galeria de Arte Copasa, Belo Horizonte; Galeria Fortes Vilaça, São Paulo; Galerie MDM, Paris, France; Galpão Fortes Vilaça, São Paulo; Meyer Riegger, Karlsruhe, Germany; and MALG - Museu de Arte Leopoldo Gotuzzo, Pelotas.

SPONSORS

Presentation of the exhibition and related programming is sponsored by Pamela Joyner and Fred Giuffrida.

ABOUT THE NEVADA MUSEUM OF ART

The **Nevada Museum of Art** is the only art museum in Nevada accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) and among the few in the nation structured around thematic inquiry. Located in Reno, Nevada, on the edge of the Great Basin, the Museum's programming and collections are divided into thematic focus areas including the Art of the Greater West, the Altered Landscape, contemporary art, and work ethic in American art.

The Museum's **Institute for Art + Environment** expands the Museum's global research footprint and is an internationally recognized research center that supports the practice, study, and awareness of creative interactions between people and their natural, built, and virtual environments. The Institute houses unique archive materials including Cape Farewell, Michael Heizer, Walter de Maria, Lita Albuquerque, Judy Chicago, Burning Man, Center for Land Use Interpretation, Helen and Newton Harrison, High Desert Test Sites, Desert X, and Great Basin Native Artists Archive and Directory.

Learn more at nevadaart.org.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Nevada Museum of Art acknowledges the traditional homelands of the Waší-šiw (Washoe), Numu (Northern Paiute), Newe (Western Shoshone), and Nuwu (Southern Paiute) people of the Great Basin. This includes the 28 Tribal Nations that exist as sovereign nations and continue as stewards of this land. We appreciate the opportunity to live and learn on these Indigenous homelands.