

Press Release

For Immediate Release
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Museum of Sonoma County Announces *Kinetics: Art in Motion* Exhibition

Exhibition on View May 5 – August 11, 2019

Curated by Debra Lehane and Satri Pencak

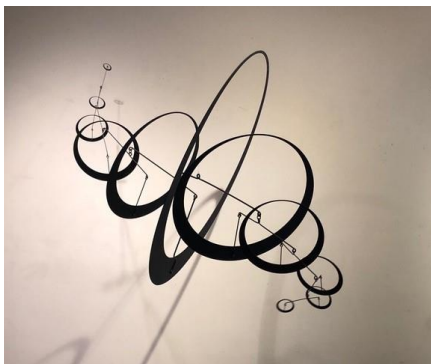
(SANTA ROSA, CA)- April 12, 2019 – The Museum of Sonoma County is pleased to announce the exhibition, *Kinetics: Art in Motion*. This exhibition features works by fourteen contemporary California artists whose works reflect a variety of styles and modes of movement. *Kinetics* will open on Sunday, May 5, with an **opening reception on Saturday, May 4**.

Guest co-curator, Satri Pencak, originally conceived the idea for an exhibition focused specifically on kinetic art. She saw it as an opportunity to learn more about the historical evolution of this distinctive art form, how it has been developed by contemporary artists, and impacted by modern technologies. She invited fellow curator Debra Lehane to co-curate the exhibition, with a vision to include artwork that represents a variety of sources for movement and utilizes motion in diverse and engaging ways.

“*Kinetics: Art in Motion* is an opportunity for the Museum of Sonoma County to spotlight a specific art historical movement and to connect its relevance to today’s artists,” said Pencak and Lehane. Although the Kinetic Art Movement identifies art created between 1920-1970, earliest evidence of man’s efforts to create movement in art date back to prehistoric cave paintings, where artists used visual techniques to depict movement, and the *Nike of Samothrace*, whose marble fabric is carved to express the invisible force of wind on the figure. In the modern era, kinetics’ roots go back to the 19th century when Impressionist painters such as Monet, Degas, and Manet experimented with accentuating movement of the human figure on canvas. Decades later, Dada, Constructivist, and Bauhaus Movements became historical precedents to Kinetic Art. Notable artists who influenced the Movement were Marcel Duchamp, Jean Tinguely,

Naum Gabo, László Moholy-Nagy, and Alexander Calder to name a few. These early 20th-Century artists sought ways to use real space, time, and movement, explore new technologies, and to make social commentary. Kinetic Art was formally established as an artistic movement in 1955 with the exhibition *Le Mouvement* at the Galerie Denise René, Paris, France. Although the Movement may have a defined time period, kinetic art has continued to thrive into the 21st Century.

The works presented in this exhibition explore motion through natural sources, such as air currents, gravity, and light, and through interventions such as mechanical motors, electrical power, and human contact. Outside the gallery, wind and solar-powered works are installed, enlivening the space that is visible to the public from Seventh Street.



Jerome Kirk, *Silent Echo*
Photo Credit: Erickson Fine Art Gallery,
Healdsburg, CA

In Memory of Jerome Kirk

Additionally, the exhibition honors Jerome Kirk, a Bay Area kinetic sculptor who passed away in January 2019. The exhibition includes *Silent Echo*, a beautiful mesmerizing mobile by Kirk, and a documentary film titled *Kirk* produced by Searchlight Films, Berkeley, CA in 2014.

“Kinetics: Art in Motion is an engaging, educational, interactive exhibition for the whole family,” Pencak and Lehane continued. “By observing and interacting with the pieces, visitors can learn how art and technology connect, how engineering is applied, and how natural forces can animate a work of art. The visitors can smile at the whimsical, ponder delicately balanced mobiles, follow shadows and lights across space, become hypnotized by movements, and wonder how it was all made.” The co-curators also hope visitors leave the exhibition with an understanding of the historical heritage that continues to influence artists and the making of kinetic art today.”

Kinetics: Art in Motion includes works by:

Catherine Daley
Laurent Davidson
Chris Eckert
Mark Galt
Nemo Gould
Ned Kahn
Jerome Kirk
Thérèse Lahaie
Sean Paul Lorentz
Mark Malmberg
Martin Munson
Moto Ohtake

Bruce Shapiro
Camille Utterback

For more information, please visit our website: <https://museumsc.org/kinetics>

This exhibition is generously supported by Eric and Debbie Green, Resolution Capital, and Jack and Diane Stuppin.

Programs and Events

Opening Reception

Saturday, May 4, 2019

4:00 – 6:00pm

Free with General Admission

Public Programs

Panel Discussion with *Kinetics* Artists

Thursday, June 20, 2019

7:00-8:30pm

Contraption Quartet Performance and Show-and-Tell

Saturday, June 29, 2019

2:00-4:00pm

Workshop with Martin Munson

Saturday, July 13, 2019

1:00 – 3:00pm

Gallery Talk with Ned Kahn

Thursday, July 18, 2019

7:00 – 8:30pm

Workshop with Catherine Daley

Saturday, August 3, 2019

1:00 – 3:00pm

Programs subject to change. Please check our website for the most current information.

Additional public programs related to the exhibition will be posted on our website:

www.museumsc.org/events.

About the Museum of Sonoma County

Located in Downtown Santa Rosa on Seventh Street between A and B Streets, the Museum of Sonoma County (MSC) presents exhibitions of modern and contemporary art and local and regional history. MSC is open year-round with changing exhibitions, public programs, school tours, and education programs. MSC preserves and manages a regional art and history collection of over eighteen thousand objects, the region's largest object documentation of Sonoma County's history and culture.

Mission

The Museum of Sonoma County engages and inspires our diverse community with art and history exhibitions, collections, and public programs that are inclusive, educational, and relevant.

Smithsonian Affiliate

The Museum of Sonoma County has been a Smithsonian Affiliate since 2009. Smithsonian Affiliations establishes long-term partnerships with museums, education and cultural organizations to facilitate the loan of Smithsonian artifacts and traveling exhibitions, as well as to develop innovative educational collaborations locally and nationally. Created in 1996 by an act of the Smithsonian Board of Regents, the program is overseen by the Smithsonian's Assistant Secretary for Education and Access and is one of the pillars of the Institution's national outreach efforts. There are more than 200 Smithsonian Affiliates in nearly every state, Puerto Rico and Panama. Affiliates represent the diversity of America's museum community—size, location and subject—and serve all audiences. More than 8,000 Smithsonian artifacts have been displayed at Affiliate locations for the past 20 years.

Museum of Sonoma County

425 Seventh Street
Santa Rosa, CA 95401
707-579-1500
www.museumsc.org

Admission

Adults: \$10.00
Students and Seniors: \$7.00
Museum Members: FREE
Children 12 and under: FREE

Museum Hours

Open: Tuesday through Sunday, 11:00am - 5:00pm
Closed: Mondays

Closed on the following holidays: New Year's Day, President's Day, Easter Sunday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Friday after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas; please visit our website for additional closures

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