

Center For Contemporary Arts Santa Fe / CCA to Reopen Galleries Presenting Works By Marietta Patricia Leis



Marietta Patricia Leis, *The Silent Road*, 2019, acrylic/Tyvek/wood rod, 60' x 34", 17' x 34" x 44" installed, Photo: Stefan Jennings Batista

Marietta Patricia Leis: Sense Memories

December 3, 2021 – February 27, 2022

Opening Reception: Friday, Dec. 3 | 5-7 pm

Poetry Reading: Saturday, Dec. 4 | 6-7 pm
in the CCA Tank Garage Gallery

Santa Fe, NM, Nov. 3, 2021 — The Center for Contemporary Arts Santa Fe / CCA is pleased to announce the reopening of its gallery program with an exhibition of the multi-disciplinary works of **Marietta Patricia Leis** in the Muñoz Waxman Gallery housed within the CCA Tank Garage Gallery, from December 3, 2021, through February 27, 2022. An opening preview and reception for the artist will be held on Friday, Dec. 3, 2021, from 5-7 pm at its location at 1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe, NM 87505, ccasantafe.org.

Marietta Patricia Leis: Sense Memories is organized by Laura Carpenter, and features over two dozen works in various media, including *The Silent Road*, 2019, a large-scale sculptural painting created for an exhibition in the Palazzo Mora under the auspices of The European Cultural Centre & the GAA Foundation on the occasion of the 2019 Venice Biennale. This exhibition also showcases works inspired from her travel experiences and artist residencies throughout the world.

Informed by her journeys and imbued with a sense of place, the work of Marietta Patricia Leis is situated in the vortex of light, color, minimalism, and expression. Her reductive technique operates most subliminally in the contemplative nature of her work, which invites the viewer to look deeply and observe the subtleties of materials and medium. Her reflections of trees and abstractions found in the natural world, along with her sophisticated use of light and shadow, bring a focused attention to the fleeting and subtle sense of atmosphere and mood. A closer look can inspire a meditative reverie, allowing the viewer to sense the vibratory and resonant nature of our world which are frequently experienced as sense memories. Sense memory is a memory evoked by one or more of the sight, smell and hearing senses.



Mariette Patricia Leis, *Eclipse 1*, 2020, Flashe/copper leaf/canvas, 68" x 68" (corner to corner), Photo: Stefan Jennings Batista

“ [Leis’s process] is a distillation of evanescent impressions, feelings, and details of memories into ostensibly simple objects that embody the essence of her exquisite sensitivity to her surroundings, as much as the particular features of places she’s been. ”

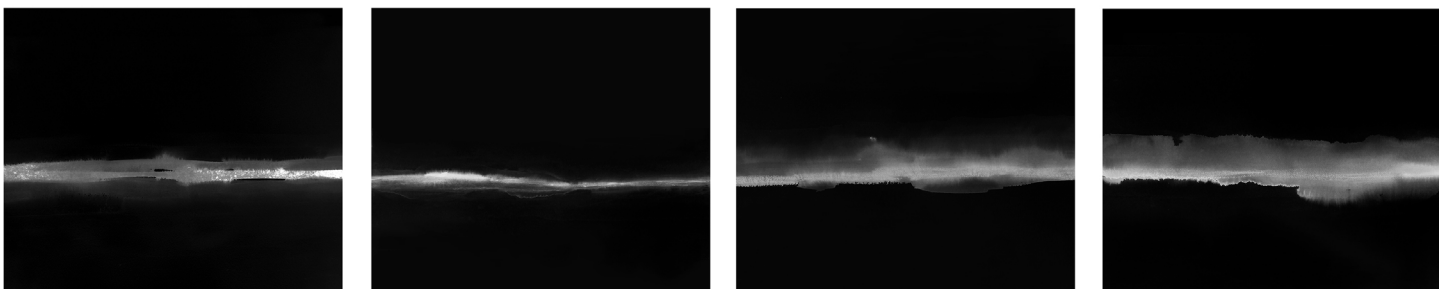
– Kathleen Shields,
Corrales, NM 2021

Danyelle Means, Executive Director of CCA, states, “I am excited to share the work of the talented, masterful Marietta Patricia Leis with Santa Fe audiences and beyond. Marietta is a multi-faceted artist whose range of vision spans from subtle minimalism at its essence to maximalism in color, hue, and brilliance. We welcome our community back to CCA’s galleries to experience and savor this exhibition and a variety of public programs designed to spark and enhance the creative dialogue in this city.”

Marietta Patricia Leis is a visual artist and poet. Originally from New Jersey, she has lived and worked in New York City as well as Los Angeles, and is currently based in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Leis’s reductive, expressive visual practice is shaped out of experiments in material process & takes inspiration from the forms of nature, sense of place, and the internal landscape.

Leis’s work has been exhibited nationally and internationally including at the Mark Rothko Art Center in Latvia, the Museo Italo Americano in San Francisco, and the Harwood Museum in Taos, in addition to exhibiting in Venice during the 2019 Venice Biennale. Her work was featured in the 2019 *Alcoves 2020* No. 2 exhibition at the New Mexico Museum of Art, curated by Merry Scully, and was recently included in the 2021 New Mexico Museum of Art’s exhibition *Breath Taking*, curated by Katherine Ware. Her work is currently included in the exhibition, *Lifetime Artists: Michael Warren Contemporary* at the McNichols Civic Center Building in Denver, CO, October 16-December 19, 2021.

Leis is also a recognized poet whose exhibitions frequently include texts of her poetry. Her books of poetry, *Pausing: A Book of Reflections in Art and Poetry* (2017) and the newly released *Engrained* include her visual art and will be available for purchase at CCA.



Mariette Patricia Leis, *Vacuties 1-4*, 2018, edition 2, archival print/metal, ea. 20 x 24" Photo: Stefan Jennings Batista



CCA Campus, Image: Dan Barsotti

Public Programs and Additional Exhibitions

On **Saturday, Dec. 4, 6-7 pm**, Marietta Patricia Leis will read selections of poetry alongside poets Mei-me Berssenbrugge and Anne Haven McDonnell. The event also functions as the second installment of CCA's Community Poetry Reading series, held in the CCA Tank Garage, donations suggested.

On view in the spector ripples project space and concurrently with *Marietta Patricia Leis: Sense Memories* is *Santa Fe Modern*, an exhibition of photographs of contemporary architecture and interiors from the book of the same name by Helen Thompson with photographs by Casey Johnson, published by Monacelli Press (2021). The book (\$50) is available for purchase at CCA in time for the holidays. This exhibition runs from Dec. 3, 2021 – Feb. 27, 2021.

About CCA

The Center for Contemporary Arts Santa Fe is a 501c3 non-profit cultural center, celebrating creativity across the arts, humanities, and sciences through transformative experiences designed to ignite minds and connect people.

Phase One of CCA's Post-Covid reopening plan launched this summer and featured the Cinema program, inviting the public to screen films on CCA's new digital projector, the only one of its kind in the state. CCA has a lively schedule of screenings in both the Cinema and the Studio Theater, and the schedule and tickets are available at ccasantafe.org.

Phase Two of CCA's reopening plan includes the relaunch of the gallery program in the Tank Garage, which houses the spector ripples project space, the Muñoz Waxman Gallery, and Living Room Gallery, as well as the Cinema Gallery located between CCA's two theaters.

For images, interviews, or more information, please contact JC Gonzalez, CCA Marketing Coordinator, at marketing@ccasantafe.org.

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