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**Public invited to preview art installation for 26th annual ArtNow Gala
featuring new works by 29 Oklahoma artists**

OKLAHOMA CITY (Jan. 12, 2015) – Nearly 200 new works by 29 Oklahoma artists are now installed for the 26th annual ArtNow Gala, available for public viewing at no cost until the night of the event at Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center, 3000 General Pershing Blvd.

“After seeing the artists’ works in the studios, we have enjoyed placing the art in the gallery,” said Julia Kirt, ArtNow co-curator and executive director for Oklahomans for the Arts. “Talented Oklahoma artists work in widely varying materials and methods. Their art comes together in this exciting sale.”

For more than a quarter century, the ArtNow Gala has served as an important fundraiser for Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center, highlighting the state’s best contemporary artists and helping to keep exhibitions free to the public year-round.

The installation includes 195 pieces, curated by Julia Kirt and John Seward, the majority of which will be priced between \$250 and \$750.

The public can preview the art at their convenience starting Monday, Jan. 12 during regular gallery hours: 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Art will be available for purchase during the gala only.

The 26th annual ArtNow Gala will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 23 at Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center. The gala event will feature food by Cheever’s Catering and music by DJ Delozier with D-Lo Entertainment. Must be 21 to enter. Cocktail attire is suggested.

General admission tickets are \$75 and VIP tickets are \$150. Call (405) 951-0000 or visit www.OklahomaContemporary.org for more information. Tickets may also be purchased [online](#).

Art lovers can also purchase “ArtBucks” gift cards in \$100 increments, online only, that anyone attending the gala (transferrable between parties) can apply to admission or art purchases. Any ArtBucks not redeemed at the gala will become a charitable contribution to Oklahoma Contemporary.

Transportation service Uber has offered a \$25 first-ride discount for attendees who use the promotional code: [ArtNow15](#).

ArtNow 2015 sponsors include: Prodigal LLC, BC Clark Jewelers, Ms. Ann L. Bohanon, Foliart, Huff, Ottaway & Bottom, Sandra and Dr. Michael Kirk, Mr. G. David Neff and Ms. Suzanne Peck, Robot House Creative, Bumbershoot PR, Organic Squeeze, Café Evoke, Cheever's Catering, Impressions Printing, BancFirst, TAP Architecture, Gardner Tanenbaum Holdings, Joy Reed Belt and John Yoeckel, United Mechanical, Inc., Elliott + Associates, Mr. David Leader and Mr. Scott Davis.

Event co-chairs are Anthony McDermid, partner at TAP Architecture and Tracey Zeeck, president of Bumbershoot PR.

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About Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center

Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center is a regional 501(c) (3) non-profit organization that encourages artistic expression in all its forms through education and exhibitions. Founded in 1989 by businessman and philanthropist Christian Keese and Kirkpatrick Foundation Director Marilyn Myers, Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center offers contemporary arts exhibitions throughout the year, free to the public, as well as youth art camps, adult art classes, workshops and lectures.

Participating Artists

Atlas Pine

Marwin Begaye

Elyse Bogart

Ruth Ann Borum-Loveland

David Crismon

Christie Hackler

Tim Hearne

Skip Hill

Kate Johnson

Michael Litzau

Michelle Martin

Beatriz Mayorca

Richard McKown

Suzanne Mears

Joseph Mills

Ellen Moershel

Caryl Morgan

Romy Owens

David Phelps

Chris Pickard

Haley Prestifilippo

Sandy Schlezinger

Barbara Scott

Bert Seabourn

Erin Shaw

Joe Slack

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Michi Susan

Cathryn Thomas