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New Exhibition Invites Visitors to Interact with Metal and Fabric Sculptures

East Lansing, MI – The newest exhibition at the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University (MSU Broad Art Museum) invites visitors to interact with metal and fabric sculptures. *Andrea Canepa: As we dwell in the fold* opens July 29, 2023, and is the first solo exhibition by Peruvian artist Andrea Canepa in the United States.

Canepa's work questions what it means to hide oneself from the gaze of others. The exhibition is in part inspired by Canepa's research into various protective fabrics and their relation to the body: from funerary bundles of the ancient Paracas culture to tapadas—Peruvian women in colonial Lima who used a veil to cover their faces revealing just one eye—to the process of folding modern-day parachutes. Drawing from ancient rituals and the Andean cultures' mythology of the underworld and death, Canepa explores how fabrics shape the way we relate to our bodies and individual identities. For the artist, fabrics are both protective garments and social constructs.

The exhibition is designed to be a tactile and experiential work. All objects can be interacted with—crawling under, covering and uncovering, stretching, introducing limbs in unexpected

places—whereby visitors alter the space through their experimentation with the many forms.

"Clothing choices as a way of finding individual empowerment and as an expression of self-determination are a timely topic that transcends local circumstances," comments Associate Curator Teresa Fankhänel. "The choice to wear a pussy hat, a rainbow flag, a veil, a make-America-great-again-hat or none of the above expresses an individual's relationship to themselves and the society they belong to. Often, meaning has to be decoded by unraveling the layers: a coming-out of sorts. Andrea Canepa masterfully creates a space—both physically at the museum and in the imagination—which allows visitors to explore such a fundamental aspect of our lives."

For those interested in additional programming around the exhibition, a live performance and artist talk with Canepa and MSU Department of Theatre dancers Saul Beceiro-Novo, Sloan Lemberg, and Sophie Parks is scheduled for Sep. 20 from 6–7:30pm, and a tour of the exhibition led by Fankhänel will take place on Jan. 21 from 1–2pm. Both events will be held at the MSU Broad Art Museum. Tickets are free. Learn more at broadmuseum.msu.edu/events.

Andrea Canepa: As we dwell in the fold (on view Jul. 29, 2023–Jan. 21, 2024) is organized by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University as part of the Artist Project Series and curated by Associate Curator Teresa Fankhänel. Support for this series is provided by the MSU Federal Credit Union. This exhibition is further supported by ifa Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen, Germany, and Lansing Welding, Inc.



The Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University (MSU Broad Art Museum) connects people with art through experiences that inspire curiosity and inquiry. Presenting exhibitions and programs that engage diverse communities around issues of local relevance and global significance, the MSU Broad Art Museum advances the university values of quality, inclusion, and connectivity. Opened on November 10, 2012, the museum was designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Zaha Hadid and named in honor of Eli and Edythe Broad, longtime supporters of the university who provided the lead gift for its creation.

Michigan State University has been working to advance the common good in uncommon ways for more than 150 years. One of the top research universities in the world, MSU focuses its vast resources on creating solutions to some of the world's most pressing challenges, while providing life-changing opportunities to a diverse and inclusive academic community through more than 200 programs of study in 17 degree-granting colleges.

Images: Vincent Morse/MSU Broad Art Museum.

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MSU Broad Art Museum representatives are available for interview.

Media Contact:
Zoe Kissel
Director of Communications
(517) 884-4805
kisselzo@msu.edu
broadmuseum.msu.edu