



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**September 25, 2025**



**ARTIST JAN TICHY TO TRANSFORM THE MSU BROAD ART MUSEUM  
IN NEXT SIGNATURE COMMISSION SERIES EXHIBITION**

*The exhibition will be an invitation for visitors to renegotiate their connections to the rhythms of nature, circadian cycles, and the broader environment.*

**East Lansing, MI** – The Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University (MSU Broad Art Museum) is thrilled to announce the second exhibition in the museum's Signature Commission Series, *Jan Tichy: Darkness*. Opening January 24, 2026, the exhibition will feature a newly commissioned, site-responsive artwork by artist Jan Tichy, transforming the heart of the museum into a reimagined architectural and multi-sensorial experience.

At its core, *Darkness* will be an invitation for visitors to renegotiate their connections to the rhythms of nature, circadian cycles, and the broader environment. For humans, our bodies carry these rhythms within us. Within each of our 30 trillion cells is an internal, circadian clock that is tuned to the roughly 24-hour period of our days—to the rise and fall of darkness (and light). But

with the invention of artificial light came the erasure of darkness across many landscapes, wreaking havoc on the lives of many. *Darkness* asks us, how can we re-embrace our relationship with the dark? How might we rediscover ourselves, our health and well-being, under the cover of darkness?

"We are thrilled to have Jan Tichy return to the museum to participate in our Signature Commission Series," commented Steven L. Bridges, senior curator and director of curatorial affairs. "Jan's inquisitiveness and interest in learning from and with campus partners, combined with his unparalleled artistic vision, all come together in a truly unique project that is at once of a particular time and place, and yet touches on something far deeper within us."

Artist Jan Tichy (b. 1974, Prague, Czechoslovakia; lives and works in Chicago) is a contemporary artist and educator, working at the intersection of video, sculpture, architecture, and photography. His conceptual work and large, public art projects engage communities in socially and politically engaged conversations. In creating *Darkness* at the MSU Broad Art Museum, Tichy worked across disciplines and with a range of different MSU laboratories and researchers, including forging partnerships with the Hoffmann Lab, Yan Lab, Bug House, and Controlled-Environment Lighting Lab (CELL).

"The collaborations with four MSU labs around the theme of darkness and its influence on human life is not about illustrating research," noted Tichy, reflecting on the co-creative processes he has developed across campus. "But about inspiring new perspectives and sharing our different audiences, so visitors to the museum have more direct access and experience with the questions shaping the work of these innovative labs and campus organizations."

*Darkness* is the second exhibition in the newly minted Signature Commission Series at the MSU Broad Art Museum. With the MSU Broad Art Museum's efforts to provide world-class, unparalleled art experiences, the Signature Commission Series is part of the forward-looking, innovative vision for the museum as it moves into the next decade of its existence.

The MSU Broad Art Museum is open Wednesday–Sunday from 10am–6pm. Admission is always free. Learn more at [broadmuseum.msu.edu](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

***Jan Tichy: Darkness*** (January 24–July 26, 2026) is organized by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University as part of the Signature Commission Series and curated by Steven L. Bridges, Senior Curator and Director of Curatorial Affairs. Support for this exhibition is provided by the Eli and Edythe Broad Endowed Exhibitions Fund and the MSU Federal Credit Union.



**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 advancing the common good with uncommon will for 170 years. One of the world's leading public research universities, MSU pushes the boundaries of discovery to make a better, safer, healthier world for all while providing life-changing opportunities to a diverse and inclusive academic community through more than 400 programs of study in 17 degree-granting colleges.

Image: Jan Tichy, *Bats* (detail), 2007. Courtesy the artist

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MSU Broad Art Museum representatives are available for interview.

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