



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MSU BROAD ART MUSEUM ANNOUNCES 2026–27 EXHIBITIONS

Exhibitions exploring civic engagement, histories of the world around us, and artistic research at Michigan State University shape the museum's year ahead.

East Lansing, MI – The Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University (MSU Broad Art Museum) is pleased to announce its 2026–27 programming, a year of exciting exhibitions that explore civic engagement, the stories and histories of the world around us, and the artistic research taking place on MSU's campus.

Among the year's major exhibitions is ***We Are This Land: Meditations on the Great American Experiment***, on view **August 22, 2026–March 14, 2027**. Filling the entire museum, the exhibition features more than eighty artists and artist groups whose work explores critical aspects of America's first 250 years—American history, civic and family life, and the land.

"*We Are This Land* explores America's history through the eyes of artists, historians, map makers, poets, and performers, a rich cross-section of creative and curious perspectives exploring who we are as a nation, with an emphasis on the "we" and what we individually and collectively bring to the conversation," said MSU Broad Art Museum director Phillip Bahar.



John Halaka, *Hands that Feed Us—1 Year*, from the series *Landscapes of Resistance*, 2022. (Full image caption on pages 8–9.)

We Are This Land: Meditations on the Great American Experiment August 22, 2026–March 14, 2027

How can we learn from the past to better envision a brighter future? How can the voices and visions of artists help us chart the course? The 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence offers timely opportunities for both reflecting on the past and imagining possible futures. Such is the case now, when the nation's history and future are at the forefront of many people's minds. How can we look to and learn from artists in moments like these?

Artists: Shuvinai Ashoona, Don Baum, William J. Beal, Romare Bearden, Albert Bierstadt, Sanford Biggers, Sandow Birk, Margaret Burroughs, Frank Casarra, Elizabeth Catlett, Raven Chacon, Mel Chin, Bethany Collins, Vincenzo Coronelli, Ralston Crawford, Currier & Ives, Bruce Davidson, Jess Dugan, Walker Evans, John Farmer, LaToya Ruby Frazier, Carl H. Frezell, Meschac Gaba, Nicholas Galanin, Ewing Galloway Inc., Tyree Guyton, John Halaka, W. E. Hook, Henry Horenstein, Candace Hunter, Irene Gayas Jungwirth, Dorothea Lange, Rodrigo Lara, Russell Lee, Natalia Lassalle-Morillo and Sofía Gallisá Muriente, Phillip Andrew Lewis and Lenka Clayton, Duane Linklater, Phillip Lindsay Mason, Tony Matelli, Carolyn Mazloomi, Julie Mehretu, Dylan AT Miner and Oscar Tuazon, M. M. Mudge, Alice Neel, Gladys Nilsson, Laura Parkey, Claire Pentecost, John Pfahl, Fairfield Porter, Sarah Rahbar, Abraham Rattner, Louis Raynor, Julia Retz, Faith Ringgold, Amber Robles-Gordon, Evan Roth, Arthur Rothstein, Alison Saar, Christine Saari, Tylonn J. Sawyer, Camille Seaman, Theresa Shellcroft, Yinka Shonibare CBE RA, Alfred Stieglitz, Stephanie Syjuco, Rayyane Tabet, Rodney Taylor, James Van Der Zee, Kara Walker, Yvonne Walker Keshick, Kay WalkingStick, Nari Ward, Emil Weddige, Rose Williams, and artists whose names are no longer known.

We Are This Land: Meditations on the Great American Experiment is organized by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University and curated by Steven L. Bridges, senior curator and director of curatorial affairs, with Dalina A. Perdomo Álvarez and Rachel Winter, assistant curators, and Morgan Braswell and Nat Swartz, former curatorial research assistants. Support for this exhibition is provided by the Eli and Edythe Broad Endowed Exhibitions Fund, with additional support provided by the Alan and Rebecca Ross Endowed Exhibitions Fund.



Rayyane Tabet, installation view of *100 Civics Questions*, 2022. (Full image caption on pages 8–9.)

Rayyane Tabet: 128 Civics Questions
August 22, 2026–March 14, 2027

How well do we know the principles of American government, the rights of American citizens, and pivotal moments in American history? *128 Civics Questions* is a site-specific intervention by artist Rayyane Tabet that presents questions from the study guide for the United States 2025 Naturalization Civics Test developed by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Select questions from the exam that people take in order to become US citizens appear throughout the MSU Broad Art Museum and across MSU's campus, often in unexpected places. These questions prompt us to assess our own knowledge and (mis)understandings of American history and civic engagement.

Rayyane Tabet: 128 Civics Questions is organized by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University and curated by Rachel Winter, Ph.D., assistant curator, with support from Nat Swartz, former curatorial research assistant, and in partnership with the artist, Rayyane Tabet. Support for this exhibition is provided by the Eli and Edythe Broad Endowed Exhibitions Fund with additional support provided by the Alan and Rebecca Ross Endowed Exhibitions Fund. The museum also extends special thanks to the artist and Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Beirut and Hamburg.



Mónica Félix, *Raquel (Alura la salvaje)*, from the series *Romance Tropical*, 2015. (Full image caption on pages 8–9.)

Laas / Absan / Peldía: Caribbean Cinema Cultures **August 22, 2026–January 31, 2027**

How do you mourn a film? *Laas / Absan / Peldía*—each word referring to the notion of loss or absence in Jamaican Patwah/Guyanese Creole, Haitian Kreyòl, and dialects of the Hispanic Caribbean—tells of the ephemeral histories of Caribbean moving images. The exhibition is inspired by conversations around the so-called “death of cinema.” These debates occur during times of rapid technological innovation that have come to define cinema in its approximately 130-year history. Is cinema dead? Is it still with us? Or is it undead?

Artists: manuel arturo abreu, Zoe Butler, La Vaughn Belle, Ojos Caribe, Mahlet Cuff, Leandro Feal, Mónica Félix, Richard Fung, Sofia Gallisá Muriente and Natalia Lassalle Morillo, Rey Parlá, Samuel Sarmiento, Michaëlle Sergile, and Christin Washington

Laas / Absan / Peldía: Caribbean Cinema Cultures is organized by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University and curated by Dalina A. Perdomo Álvarez, assistant curator; Pedro Noel Doreste Rodríguez, assistant professor of film studies at MSU; and Diaspora Solidarities Lab fellows Zoe Butler, KV Bailey, Luis Prieto, and Nehemías Toro Padrón. Support for this series is provided by the MSU Federal Credit Union.

This exhibition is the result of collaborative research produced by the Manchineel Project, a microlab of the Diaspora Solidarities Lab, a Black feminist-led partnership between Johns Hopkins University and the Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College. The Diaspora Solidarities Lab is made possible with financial support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.





Hamdia Traoré (born Djenné, Mali, 1992), *Yelpha Djiété, marabout et maître coranique. Il est imam de la Grande Mosquée. Djenné-Konofia*. (Yelpha Djiété, Marabout and Qur'anic Teacher. He is Imam of the Great Mosque. Djenné-Konofia). September 2018, from the series *Des marabouts de Djenné (The Marabouts of Djenné)*. Pigment print; printed 2023. Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University, Irwin and Andra S. Press Collection Endowment Fund purchase, 2022.17.20. Image copyright of the artist. (Full image caption on pages 8–9.)

Hamdia Traoré's "Des marabouts de Djenné" and Muslim Portraiture in Mali February 12–July 25, 2027

The storied city of Djenné, a center of Islamic learning, study, and scholarship since the twelfth century, is the hometown of Bamako-based photographer Hamdia Traoré. The thirty portraits in Traoré's series *Des marabouts de Djenné* (Marabouts of Jenne) reflect his intimate connections to the city's people and deep history. Learned and devout, marabouts teach in Djenné's over 50 Qur'anic schools, offer spiritual guidance, and treat ailments through their knowledge of the Qur'an.

Hamdia Traoré's "Des marabouts de Djenné" and Muslim Portraiture in Mali is organized by The Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University. The exhibition is curated by Kathleen Bickford Berzock, Block Museum former associate director of curatorial affairs, in consultation with project advisor Candace M. Keller, associate professor of African art and visual culture, Michigan State University.

This presentation of the exhibition is organized by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University and curated by Candace M. Keller, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Art, Art History, and Design, and director of the Archive of Malian Photography, Michigan State University, with support from Rachel Winter, Ph.D., assistant curator.



2024 Master of Fine Arts Exhibition installation view. (Full image caption on pages 8–9.)

2027 Master of Fine Arts Exhibition **March 13–May 16, 2027**

The *2027 Master of Fine Arts Exhibition* is the culmination of a three-year program in which artists explore their creative practice. The MSU Department of Art, Art History, and Design celebrates the creative research of Jacob Ashba, Colin Day, Shelby Freehling, Mahbube Parnian, and Jaelene Tatum as evidence of their achievement and continuing artistic, scholarly, and professional promise.

The *2027 Master of Fine Arts Exhibition* is organized by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University in partnership with the MSU Department of Art, Art History, and Design and curated by Rachel Winter, Ph.D., assistant curator. Support for this exhibition is provided by the Graduate School at MSU and the John and Susan Berding Family Endowment.



2024 Art, Art History, and Design Faculty Triennial installation view. (Full image caption on pages 8–9.)

2027 Art, Art History, and Design Faculty Triennial
April 10–August 8, 2027

The 2027 Art, Art History, and Design Faculty Triennial presents a survey of recent works produced by internationally recognized faculty teaching at Michigan State University. The exhibition celebrates their diverse, experimental, and interdisciplinary practices. Within the climate of a top research university, Michigan State University faculty members are continually engaged in a pursuit of excellence utilizing cutting-edge techniques as contemporary artists and designers.

The 2027 Art, Art History, and Design Faculty Triennial is organized by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University. Support for this exhibition is provided by the John and Susan Berding Family Endowment.



Amir Fallah, *Antonio* from the series *Forts*, 2007. (Full image caption on pages 8–9.)

Amir H. Fallah: Portrait of a Museum
June 12–December 12, 2027

If you prompted someone to make a portrait of you using the objects around you, what would they pick, and why? *Amir H. Fallah: Portrait of a Museum* asks precisely this question using objects in the MSU Broad Art Museum's collection on the occasion of its 15th anniversary. The exhibition centers on a commissioned painting by Fallah, which creatively re-envisioned and celebrates the museum's collection and the many communities who have shaped the collection.

since the first work of art was gifted to the university in 1945. This commission will be accompanied by numerous works assembled from the museum's eccentric yet encyclopedic collection, ranging from pre-historic sculptures to contemporary paintings. As the artist intervenes into the collection, he creates a portrait of a museum—a still life that imagines the institution as a sum of its objects shaped by its constituents, and a vessel for storytelling.

Amir H. Fallah: Portrait of a Museum is organized by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University and curated by Rachel Winter, Ph.D., assistant curator, and Amir H. Fallah, with support from Natalie Beglin, curatorial research assistant, and Nat Swartz, former curatorial research assistant. This project is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.



The MSU Broad Art Museum is open Wednesday–Sunday from 10am–6pm. Admission is always free. Learn more at broadmuseum.msu.edu.

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 in 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 credits:

1. Anthony Valli/Arts MSU
2. John Halaka, *Hands that Feed Us—1 Year*, from the series *Landscapes of Resistance*, 2022. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, Michigan State University, purchase, funded by the Nellie M. Loomis Endowment in memory of Martha Jane Loomis, 2025.36.4
3. Rayyane Tabet, installation view of *100 Civics Questions*, 2022, at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, for the 2022 Whitney Biennial. © Rayyane Tabet. Courtesy the artist and Sfeir-Semler Gallery Beirut / Hamburg
4. Mónica Félix, *Raquel (Alura la salvaje)*, from the series *Romance Tropical*, 2015. Courtesy the artist

5. Hamdia Traoré (born Djenné, Mali, 1992), *Yelpha Djiété, marabout et maître coranique. Il est imam de la Grande Mosquée. Djenné-Konofia*. (Yelpha Djiété, Marabout and Qur'anic Teacher. He is Imam of the Great Mosque. Djenné-Konofia). September 2018, from the series *Des marabouts de Djenné (The Marabouts of Djenné)*. Pigment print; printed 2023. Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University, Irwin and Andra S. Press Collection Endowment Fund purchase, 2022.17.20. Image copyright of the artist

6. *2024 Master of Fine Arts Exhibition* installation view at the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University, 2024. Photo: Vincent Morse/MSU Broad Art Museum

7. *2024 Art, Art History, and Design Faculty Triennial* installation view at the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University, 2024. Photo: Vincent Morse/MSU Broad Art Museum

8. Amir Fallah, *Antonio* from the series *Forts*, 2007. Courtesy of the artist and Nazarian/Curcio.

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MSU Broad Art Museum representatives are available for interview.

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