

MOODY CENTER FOR THE ARTS AND RICE PUBLIC ART ANNOUNCE THEIR FALL 2017 SEASON,
FEATURING MICKALENE THOMAS, WORKS OF GROUNDBREAKING MUSIC, AND A NEW SERIES OF
SITE-SPECIFIC PUBLIC ART PROJECTS



Mickalene Thomas, *Shinique: Now I Know*, 2015. Rhinestones, acrylic and oil on wood panel.
96 x 120 inches. © Mickalene Thomas

HOUSTON, TX [August 21, 2017] — Alison Weaver, the Suzanne Deal Booth Executive Director of the Moody Center for the Arts, today announced the Moody's fall exhibition and programming schedule and new projects by Rice Public Art. The Moody launches its fall season with the solo exhibition *Mickalene Thomas: Waiting on a Prime-Time Star*, opening September 28; and *A Proust Sonata*, a multimedia concert-theater work inspired by Proust's early 20th century masterpiece *In Search of Lost Time*, opening November 16. Rice Public Art will feature new music programs composed for the James Turrell *Twilight Epiphany* Skyspace and will launch *Platform*, a groundbreaking series of temporary, site-specific public art projects. Artist Jarrod Beck inaugurates the series in October with *Origin 135 degrees*, produced in response to Michael Heizer's monolithic sculpture.

EXHIBITION

Mickalene Thomas: Waiting on a Prime-Time Star

September 28, 2017 – January 13, 2018

Brown Foundation and Central Galleries, Moody Center for the Arts

Mickalene Thomas: Waiting on a Prime-Time Star features paintings, photographs, collages, prints, and mixed-media works that explore the artist's complex vision of female sexuality, identity, and power. Thomas's portraits, landscapes, and interiors examine how African-American women are represented in art and popular culture and confront our assumptions about what defines the female experience in the 21st century. Thomas's work draws on her close study of art history and the classical genres of portraiture and landscape. Inspired by diverse sources from Romane Bearden, Édouard Manet, Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres, and Henri Matisse to contemporary film, fashion, and popular culture, Thomas challenges notions of femininity from a contemporary perspective. By modeling her figures and interiors on classically modern works, she claims agency for women who have historically been subjugated.

ARTISTS IN DIALOGUE

Mickalene Thomas and Melina Matsoukas

Thursday, September 28, 2017 | 6:00 pm

Lois Chiles Studio Theater, Moody Center for the Arts

Continuing the Moody's series dedicated to fostering dialogue across disciplines, this program features a conversation between visual artist Mickalene Thomas and Melina Matsoukas, director and producer of music videos, television shows, and commercials. Thomas works in diverse media from paintings and photographs to videos and installations to create striking portraits, landscapes, and still lifes. Matsoukas is a Grammy-Award winning director for her work with Beyoncé and Rihanna and an executive producer on the critically acclaimed HBO series *Insecure*. Thomas and Matsoukas both create iconic visual images that explore the experience, vitality, and identity of African-American womanhood, drawing on the past while remaining solidly rooted in the present.



Sarah Rothenberg in *A Proust Sonata*. Photo: Ben Doyle. Image from the world premiere of the performance at the Cullen Theater, 2016.

THEATER PERFORMANCE

A Proust Sonata

Thursday, November 16, 2017 | 8:00 pm

Friday, November 17, 2017 | 8:00 pm

Saturday, November 18, 2017 | 8:00 pm

Lois Chiles Studio Theater, Moody Center for the Arts

A Proust Sonata is a multimedia concert-theater work conceived and directed by Sarah Rothenberg, co-produced by the Moody and Da Camera. Inspired by Proust's early 20th century masterpiece *In Search of Lost Time*, the production interweaves text, music, and image into an innovative performance. Artistic and general director of Da Camera and concert pianist Rothenberg is joined by a Tony Award-

winning design team and a cast that includes professional actors and musicians together with students from Rice's Shepherd School of Music. The music of Fauré, Shumann, Debussy, Chopin, Ravel, Beethoven, and Reynaldo Hahn evoke the author's themes of memory, lost childhood, fashionable Parisian salons, and the final reclusive years when he withdrew from society to complete his magnum opus.



Twilight Epiphany (2012), The James Turrell Skyspace at the Suzanne Deal Booth Centennial Pavilion at Rice University. Photo Paul Hester.

PERFORMANCE

***Trajectory of a Curve: A Sound and Light Composition* by Kurt Stallmann**

Tuesday, September 12, 2017 | 8:00 pm

Rain date: September 13, 2017 | 8:00 pm

James Turrell *Twilight Epiphany* Skyspace

After a summer of renovations, *Twilight Epiphany*, the James Turrell Skyspace at the Suzanne Deal Booth Centennial Pavilion, will reopen to the public on September 12 with *Trajectory of a Curve: A Sound and Light Composition* by Kurt Stallmann. Inspired by Carl Jung's comparison of the human lifespan to the trajectory of a projectile that glides along a curve through the atmosphere to its inevitable conclusion, Stallmann, a groundbreaking composer based at the Shepherd School of Music, has created a new site-specific work for the Turrell Skyspace, featuring Alexandra Smither (soprano) and Brandon Bell and Craig Hauschildt (Scuffed Shoe percussion duo).

PERFORMANCE

virtual bodies: an evening with Hans Tutschku

Thursday, September 21, 2017 | 7:00 pm

Lois Chiles Studio Theater, Moody Center for the Arts

Visiting German composer Hans Tutschku presents an evening of electroacoustic music in the Moody's Lois Chiles Studio Theater. A master in the practice of audio diffusion, Tutschku uses the theater space itself as his instrument while directing sounds from above, in front of, and behind the audience through a sixteen-channel sound system. Tutschku will also perform two works for piano and electronics, including the world premiere of *virtual bodies*. This performance is presented by REMLABS and the Moody Center for the Arts.



Hans Tutschku. Photo: Stephanie Mitchell

PERFORMANCE

Hans Tutschku: *nighttime songs from afar*

Saturday, September 23, 2017 | 7:00 pm

James Turrell *Twilight Epiphany* Skyspace

Immediately following the *Twilight Epiphany* sunset light sequence, the Skyspace will host a sound and light installation by German composer Hans Tutschku. Composed specifically for Rice's Skyspace, Tutschku's new work *nighttime songs from afar* will create an imaginary voyage by weaving voices from around the world into a complex, diverse, and harmonious whole through an immersive sound and light installation. The composition combines the breathtaking light of the Skyspace with sounds of folk songs, prayers, and

lullabies from around the globe to form a ritualistic sensory event not to be missed. Tutschku performs at the premiere on September 23, with introductions by Kurt Stallmann. The work is ongoing through October 9, 2017, immediately following daily sunset light sequences.



Artist Jarrod Beck with the 45° element of Michael Heizer's sculpture *45°, 90°, 180°* (1984) at Rice University. Photo courtesy Rice Public Art.

NEW SERIES: PLATFORM

Jarrod Beck: *Origin, 135 degrees*

October 21, 2017 – May 31, 2018

Rice Public Art is pleased to announce *Platform*, a groundbreaking series of temporary, site-specific public art projects on the Rice University campus. Launching in October 2017, the *Platform* series invites contemporary artists to respond to artworks, architectural structures, and research at Rice University. Brooklyn- and West Texas-based artist Jarrod Beck will inaugurate this series with *Origin, 135 degrees*, a sculpture and

performance which takes Michael Heizer's massive monolithic work, *45°, 90°, 180°* (1984), as its point of departure. Building on the Heizer sculpture's history as a feat of engineering, Beck will work with the Rice community, hosting student workshops at the Moody and organizing collaborative performances, to build a temporary public sculpture that will remain on view through Summer 2018.

BIOSCIENCE RESEARCH COLLABORATIVE (BRC) PROJECT

Joseph Cohen: Looking at a flower

November 9, 2017 – April 8, 2018

Following a Rice Public Art residency in the Weisman NanoEngineering laboratory of the Department of Chemistry, Houston-based artist and scientist Joseph Cohen will present his work in a solo exhibition *Looking at a flower* at the BioScience Research Collaborative. Under the guidance of Dr. Bruce Weisman and his colleagues, Cohen's research will focus on the use of carbon nanotubes to produce paintings, photos, prints, and new sound works that both address and illustrate the unique optical and physical properties of the material.

About the Moody Center for the Arts

Inaugurated in February 2017, the Moody Center for the Arts at Rice University is a state-of-the-art, non-collecting institution dedicated to transdisciplinary collaboration among the arts, sciences, and humanities. The 50,000-square foot facility, designed by acclaimed Los Angeles-based architect Michael Maltzan, serves as an experimental platform for creating and presenting works in all disciplines, a flexible teaching space to encourage new modes of making and a forum for creative partnerships with visiting national and international artists. The Moody is free and open to the public year-round.

Website: moody.rice.edu
Social Media: @theMoodyArts | #atTheMoody
Phone: +1 713.348.ARTS
Address: Moody Center for the Arts at Rice University
6100 Main Street, MS-480, Houston, TX 77005
(University Entrance 8, at University Boulevard and Stockton Street)

Hours & Admission:

The exhibition spaces are open to the public and free of charge Tuesday through Saturday from 10am to 5pm, and closed Sundays, Mondays, and holidays. Events and programs are open to the public through an advance reservation system. For schedule, tickets and prices, visit moody.rice.edu.

Directions & Parking:

The Moody Center for the Arts is located on the campus of Rice University, and is best reached by using Campus Entrance 8 at the intersection of University Boulevard and Stockton Street. As you enter campus, the building is on the right, just past the Media Center. There is a dedicated parking lot adjacent to the building. Payment for the Moody Lot is by credit card only. For campus maps, visit www.rice.edu/maps.

About Rice University

Located on a 300-acre forested campus in Houston, Rice University is consistently ranked among the nation's top 20 universities by U.S. News & World Report. Rice has highly respected schools of Architecture, Business, Continuing Studies, Engineering, Humanities, Music, Natural Sciences and Social Sciences and is home to the Baker Institute for Public Policy. With 3,879 undergraduates and 2,861 graduate students, Rice's undergraduate student-to-faculty ratio is 6-to-1. Its residential college system builds close-knit communities and lifelong friendships, just one reason why Rice is ranked No. 1 for quality of life and for lots of race/class interaction and No. 2 for happiest students by the Princeton Review. Rice is also rated as a best value among private universities by Kiplinger's Personal Finance. Read "[What they're saying about Rice.](#)"

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