

MASS MoCA

MASS MoCA Announces 25th Anniversary Season Summer 2024 Programming

Featuring a 25th Anniversary Community Celebration including a performance by Academy Award®-nominated Son Lux; upcoming exhibitions by Osman Khan, Chris Doyle and Steve Locke; comedy by Dulcé Sloan; and North Adams mainstays Wilco's Solid Sound, FreshGrass, and The Chalet.

North Adams, MA, April 25, 2024 — MASS MoCA celebrates its 25th Anniversary Season starting Saturday, May 25 with a campus-wide Community Celebration with free museum admission in partnership with MountainOne, live performances, and family activities throughout the day; and a conversation moderated by singer and actress **Helga Davis** between **Kristy Edmunds**, Director and **Joseph Thompson**, Founding Director, together on stage. Wilco's **Solid Sound** Festival (June 28–30) also returns this summer, along with a new photography exhibition ***Musicians on Musicians: Curated by Wilco*** featuring Johnny Cash, James Taylor and Carole King, Patti Smith and Tom Verlaine, Kurt Cobain, Stevie Wonder, and more.

In addition to upcoming exhibitions by **Osman Khan**, **Chris Doyle**, and Guggenheim Fellowship awardee **Steve Locke**, and the immersive experience ***The Plastic Bag Store***, the summer season also features a host of conversations with artists and writers in our Research & Development Store including **Jonathan Lethem** in conversation with Chief Curator Denise Markonish (July 11), **Fritz Horstman** (July 13), **Eve O. Schuab** (August 8), **Amy Yoes** (August 10) and **Brad Gooch** (August 16); as well as the return of MASS MoCA's free summer fun spot, **The Chalet** on Thursday nights in July & August.

Following the Venice Biennale Arte 2024, **Jeffrey Gibson's** new commission, ***POWER FULL BECAUSE WE'RE DIFFERENT***, will fill MASS MoCA's signature, football field-sized Building 5 gallery space and opens in November.

Summer weather invites all to wander outdoors on MASS MoCA's 16-acre campus including **James Turrell's** largest free-standing circular Skyspace — ***C.A.V.U.*** — which is now [taking reservations](#) for dawn and dusk experiences; and MASS MoCA's dedicated gallery space for **Anselm Kiefer**, in collaboration with the Hall Art Foundation, all of which will reopen in time for the 25th Anniversary Memorial Day weekend.

MASS MoCA is open six days a week, 10am–5pm, closed only on Tuesdays; timed entry reservations are encouraged for select exhibitions; [learn more here](#).

25th ANNIVERSARY GALA & COMMUNITY CELEBRATION EVENTS

25th Anniversary Gala | May 24, 2024, 6pm

This is sure to be an unforgettable evening celebrating MASS MoCA's 25th Anniversary. We will honor the extraordinary ingenuity, vision, and committed support of the diverse community of people and partner organizations who have made this audacious experiment a resounding success, and lay the foundation for MASS MoCA's future as a creative campus with a regional, national, and global impact. The Gala will feature opening remarks from Kristy Edmunds, Director, a Berskires family-style dinner curated by Mezze, a live auction of artistic experiences, and surprise artist guests and performances.

25th Anniversary Community Celebration | May 25, 2024, 10am-5pm

Celebrate MASS MoCA's 25th Anniversary on Saturday, May 25, with free museum admission, live performances, gallery tours, open studios, and family activities throughout the day. Some events require advance reservation or separate tickets; learn more at massmoca.org.

In Conversation: Kristy Edmunds, Director, and Joseph Thompson Founding Director | May 25, 2024, 3pm

Join us for an afternoon of memories and laughter with Kristy Edmunds, Director and Joseph Thompson, Founding Director, together on stage. Moderated by Helga Davis, singer, actress, and host of the Helga podcast, this conversation will wade into the museum's rich history and chart the vision of what's next for MASS MoCA and its vibrant arts community.

Tickets: \$10; Free for members

***The Plastic Bag Store* Activations | May 25, 2024, 11am, 1pm, 3pm, & 5pm**

Make Community Day even more memorable with a step inside *The Plastic Bag Store* — a tongue-in-cheek "supermarket" — to explore a darkly funny and often tender story about the enduring effects of single-use plastics. Created by artist Robin Frohardt, this immersive, multimedia experience melds installation art, theater, film, and a whole lot of humor to spark critical reflection on our culture of consumption and convenience. Frohardt has meticulously hand-sculpted thousands of items that have been ingeniously up-cycled: 2-liter bottles become "Plastic Dew," orange tarp becomes carrots, plastic caps are "capperonnis" on frozen pizza, and "free-range" plastic bags transform into a dozen eggs. The Plastic Bag Store runs May 9–Sept 2, 2024 with multiple timed activations throughout each day.

Tickets: \$25 General Admission

Open Studios at MASS MoCA | May 25, 2024, 1–3pm

Open Studios are an opportunity to get to know the current Assets for Artists artists-in-residence over snacks and conversation! Open Studios also occur July 3 and August 1 from 5-7pm. Admission is free and open to all.

Son Lux | May 25, 2024, 8pm

MASS MoCA's 25th Anniversary Community Celebration concludes with a performance by The Academy Award®- and BAFTA-nominated band Son Lux, a groundbreaking trio with deep ties to the museum. Founded by Ryan Lott as a solo project and now featuring fellow sonic travelers Ian Chang and Rafiq Bhatia, the band traces its connections to MASS MoCA from a first performance in 2009 through an exquisite Audio After Hours gallery soundtrack, multiple residencies and performances by its members with other projects, and a future large-scale installation collaboration currently in development.

Tickets: \$29 Advance, \$39 Week-of, \$79 Preferred

EXHIBITIONS

Chris Doyle: *The Coast of Industry* | On view beginning June 8, 2024

Artist Chris Doyle's work highlights the precarious moments we face in attempting to care for the natural world in a culture fiercely devoted to progress. His video animation *The Coast of Industry* runs 250 feet long and 25 feet high along one wall of Building 5 like a vast panoramic scroll. *The Coast of Industry* is inhabited by a family of machines that have learned to work together in concert with the natural world in loops of perpetual labor. Like organs of a body, the machines are interconnected and each has a discrete function that contributes to the life of the larger organism. For the machines, repetition has a calming effect, and though it doesn't expand, the system thrives.

Carly Glovinski: *Almanac* | On view beginning June 15, 2024

Rooted in observation and fueled by a curiosity about the history of objects and handicraft processes, Carly Glovinski makes work that explores the make-do, resourceful attitudes associated with domestic craft. The elements of time and place are embedded in work that mines her surrounding coastal New Hampshire and Maine environment for inspiration and look to the repetitive cycles of seasonal blooms and celestial orbits.

Amy Podmore: *Audience* | On view beginning August 3, 2024

Amy Podmore is propelled by an interest in surrealist strategies of transformation and the line between stillness and motion in sculpture. In *Audience*, she offers enigmatic plaster casts of found wicker baskets and cornucopias. What we see as the exterior is actually the interior of these baskets, unfolding a vulnerable underbelly in the act of reversal. Podmore embeds motorized glass eyeballs into the woven warp and weft of the basket surfaces, still visible in the plaster translation. Defamiliarized, the molded baskets and their ranging, expressive forms

adopt an almost anthropomorphic quality. As their eyes sleepily fall shut and whip open, the museum visitor becomes the one being uncannily watched back.

Steve Locke: *the fire next time* | On view beginning August 3, 2024

New York-based artist Steve Locke's exhibition *the fire next time* is a meditation on uniquely American forms of violence directed at Black and queer people. In his interdisciplinary practice, Locke engages issues of identity, desire, race, violence, and memory, revealing as much tenderness and humor as he does brutality. *the fire next time* takes its title from a book by James Baldwin, first published in 1963 amid the growing civil rights movement. Locke's exhibition includes a MASS MoCA-commissioned sculptural installation; a new series of freestanding paintings; *#Killers*, (2017–ongoing), a series of hand-drawn portraits of American mass murderers and accused or acquitted killers; and a data-driven site-specific installation, *A Partial List of Unarmed African-Americans Who Were Killed By Police or Who Died in Police Custody During My Sabbatical from Massachusetts College of Art and Design*, 2014–2015 (2016), among other new and recent works.

Osman Khan: *Road to Hybridabad* | On view beginning August 24, 2024

In *Road to Hybridabad*, Osman Khan re-reads the magical and fantastical figures found in folktales and lore, with a particular focus on those from South Asia, the Middle East, and other Muslim and immigrant traditions. Khan interprets these figures through contemporary technologies and concerns: this new body of work includes an animatronic djinn, drone-operated flying carpets, a wall-destroying sound system/cannon, and a storytelling Scheherazade AI. This sprawling and wryly funny exhibition invites us on a journey across borders, through time, and between legend and history, encouraging us to reconsider — and perhaps rewrite — the narratives around identity, difference, and power reflected and recounted in the tales we tell ourselves.

Artist in Conversation: Osman Khan | August 25, 2024, 2pm

A lively conversation between artist Osman Khan and MASS MoCA Curator Alexandra Foradas will discuss the process of creating the exhibition, and explore how stories shape who we are – and the power of the choices we make as we retell them.

Tickets: \$10; Free for members

kelli rae adams: *Forever in Your Debt: The Tally* | June 8, 2024, 3:30pm

kelli rae adams' exhibition *Forever in Your Debt* immediately inspired MASS MoCA's audience, whose gestures of solidarity over two years filled her 900+ handmade bowls with coins in an attempt to collectively visualize the nation's student debt crisis. The artist will fill the final vessels, and in the following days empty them and tally the collected coins. Beginning the filling again for the installation's last month, adams emphasizes the ongoing student debt burden—the promises of relief unfulfilled. The artist will make brief remarks in the gallery to mark the occasion, followed by a celebration in the courtyard.

Jeffrey Gibson: *POWER FULL BECAUSE WE'RE DIFFERENT* | November 2, 2024

Jeffrey Gibson's new commission is an immersive installation that will fill MASS MoCA's signature, football field-sized Building 5 gallery. The project will be home to a series of performances by Indigenous creatives from across North America. Gibson is known for creating installations, performances, paintings, and sculpture that elevate and make visible queer and Indigenous communities, among others whose cultural narratives have been historically marginalized. For his MASS MoCA project, his intent is a true collaboration, bringing in fellow artists and thinkers to shape the installation and programming to reflect a diverse and active Indigenous community.

Traversing both spaces of Building 5 will be seven 12×12-foot fused glass stages with patterns and text based on Gibson's paintings and graphic geometric designs. Each of the oversized garments will be suspended from the ceiling above its corresponding dance floor. The stages will also function as platforms for a series of performances that will unfold throughout the 18-month exhibition. In addition to Gibson's presentation at MASS MoCA, the artist will also create a new mural in collaboration with MASS MoCA and The Rose Kennedy Greenway in Dewey Square, Boston, MA, on view beginning June 1.

SUMMER FESTIVALS

Wilco's Solid Sound 2024 | June 28-20, 2024

Spanning three days and four stages, Solid Sound features music by Wilco and its members' side projects alongside a diverse lineup of enduring favorites and emerging voices. It also features a full comedy lineup, family fun for all ages, local food, craft beer, camping, naturalist activities, and more. Concerts held rain or shine.

Tickets: \$299 3-day adult pass, day passes available at <https://massmoca.org/event/solid-sound-2024/>

Wilco: *Musicians on Musicians* | On view beginning June 22, 2024

Since 2019, MASS MoCA has curated selections from a private collection of music photography. This year we handed over the selection process to the members of Wilco, who have chosen 35 images featuring performers such as Johnny Cash, The Clash, James Taylor and Carole King, Patti Smith and Tom Verlaine, Leonard Bernstein, Kurt Cobain, Stevie Wonder, The Supremes, The Band, and many more.

Bang on a Can: LOUD Weekend | August 1-3, 2024

For 23 of its 25 years, the Bang on a Can Summer Music Festival has transformed MASS MoCA into a genre-bending musical utopia for innovative composers and performers. During LOUD Weekend, renowned special guests, Boac faculty, and young players take to the Hunter Center stage in a series of playful and heady collisions of jazz, classical, rock and beyond. Leading up to a LOUD Weekend finale, Bang on a Can fellows and faculty let loose throughout the galleries of MASS MoCA, experimenting with some of today's most innovative new music. Gallery concerts are free with museum admission.

Tickets: \$149 Advance, \$179 Week-of, day passes available at <https://massmoca.org/event/bang-on-a-can-loud-weekend-2024/>.

FreshGrass | September 20-22, 2024

Set against the foothills of the autumn Berkshire mountains, **FreshGrass** is a family-friendly festival with the best in bluegrass and roots music filling the fields, courtyards, and galleries of MASS MoCA's 16-acre campus. Along with world premieres, emerging artist competitions, farm-fresh local Berkshire food and brews, and pop-up jam sessions, FreshGrass is three days of festival magic produced in partnership by MASS MoCA, the FreshGrass Foundation, and *No Depression*.

CONCERTS & COMEDY

The Chalet | Thursdays from July 11 through August 29, 2024 (no August 1 or 8)

MASS MoCA's riverside summer fun spot returns when we fire up The Chalet on Thursday nights in July and August. Taking place outdoors in Courtyard C and indoors in Building 8, The Chalet is a beer garden that features live performances and a bar designed from objects in artist Dean Baldwin's 2013 *Oh, Canada* exhibition. Featured performers will be released on a rolling basis. Admission is free.

Seun Kuti & Egypt 80 | July 12, 2024, 8pm

Leading his pioneering father Fela's legendary band Egypt 80, Seun Kuti brings Afrobeat — the mix of West African genres and American funk and jazz that exploded out of Nigeria in the 60s and 70s — to new heights. He prowls the stage with energy not seen since his dad's heyday that will move your body and uplift your soul.

Tickets: \$29 Advance, \$39 Week-of, \$55 Preferred

Dulcé Sloan | July 19, 2024, 8pm

Dulcé Sloan is one of the sharpest, fastest rising voices in comedy. Most recently a correspondent on Comedy Central's "The Daily Show" with Trevor Noah, she has been hailed by *Variety*, *Rolling Stone*, and *Time Out LA* as a Top Comedian To Watch. Sloan can be found in the feature film "Chick Fight" alongside Malin Ackerman and Alec Baldwin, for which The Hollywood Reporter hailed her as "not just stealing the movie but making sure that no one else even comes close." Sloan's signature point-of-view and confidence drive her hilarious views on everything from her personal relationships to the absurdities of society and will be on full display at her intimate showcase in MASS MoCA's Club B10.

Tickets: \$22 Advance, \$32 Week-of, \$46 Preferred

Roomful of Teeth | August 24, 2024, 8pm

Two-time GRAMMY^(R) winners **Roomful of Teeth** return to MASS MoCA for a week-long residency to workshop new music with some of today's most visionary composers including

Allison Loggins-Hull, Christopher Cerrone and Mingjia Chen. In celebration of Roomful of Teeth's long-standing history of creation at MASS MoCA, the band will present a sensational retrospective performance of the iconic new works that have been born out of 14 years of consecutive summer residencies at MASS MoCA.

Tickets: \$25 Advance, \$35 Week-of, \$55 Preferred

PUBLIC PROGRAMS WITH THE RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT STORE

An intimate venue for author events, book and record releases, and performances, MASS MoCA's Research & Development (R&D) Store combines gallery and retail space.

***Interacting with Color: A Practical Guide to Josef Albers's Color Experiments with Fritz Horstman* | July 13, 2024**

Fritz Horstman, author of *Interacting with Color: A Practical Guide to Josef Albers's Color Experiments*, joins us in the Research & Development Store for a presentation and discussion of his newly published book. After the presentation, visitors will be guided to the Sol Lewitt Galleries to utilize color aid paper with Horstman in a workshop-style class reflecting the ideas in the book.

Tickets: \$25; \$20 for members

Joseph Keckler: The Voice in Performance | July 25, 2024, 3pm

Joseph Keckler will lead a workshop on utilizing the voice as an expressive tool, vehicle of meaning, object of admiration, and an elusive and invisible 'second body' in art and performance, as well as musical and theatrical traditions. The workshop will touch on a variety of strategies and effects such as choral speech, ventriloquism, lip-syncing, impersonation, alter-ego, and vocal soundscape.

Tickets: \$25; \$20 for members

Amy Yoes: Catalogue Launch & Activation | August 10, 2024, 10am

An in-depth conversation in the R&D Store with Amy Yoes and Creative Producer Gabriel Sacco that celebrates the publication of the new catalogue Amy Yoes: *Hot Corners* (MASS MoCA). After the conversation, we will explore Yoes' drawing implements in a drop-in style activation to create artworks on paper in Yoes' *Hot Corners* exhibition. Admission is free.

Summer Chalet Book Events

All events Thursdays at 6pm as part of MASS MoCA's summer Chalet event series. The \$5 ticket fee can be applied toward a book purchase the night of each event.

- ***Cellophane Bricks: Jonathan Lethem in Conversation with Denise Markonish* | July 11, 2024**

Jonathan Lethem is not only one of our most celebrated and eclectic writers, but a prolific artist who, in his own words, “made hundreds if not thousands of drawings, collages, paintings, hand-drawn comics, and even two animated shorts” before diverting, at nineteen, to prose fiction. MASS MoCA is excited to launch *Cellophane Bricks*, which gathers a lifetime of Lethem’s art-writing, along with full-color images collected by the author. Lethem will be discussing this work with MASS MoCA’s Chief Curator Denise Markonish.

- **Eve Schaub: *Year of No Garbage* | August 8, 2024**
Humorist and stunt memoirist Eve O. Schaub discusses and reads from her last experiment turned book, *Year of No Garbage*. In this book, Schaub tackles her most difficult challenge to date: garbage. Convincing her husband and two daughters to go along with her, Schaub attempts the seemingly impossible: living in the modern world without creating any trash at all. For an entire year. And — as it turns out — during a pandemic.
- **Brad Gooch: *Radiant: The Life and Line of Keith Haring* | August 16, 2024**
Acclaimed biographer Brad Gooch (Flannery O'Connor, Frank O'Hara) reads from *Radiant: The Life and Line of Keith Haring* (Harper Collins, 2024), his biography of the life of iconic American artist Keith Haring.
- **Marin Kosut: *Art Monster* | August 22, 2024**
Why do people choose the life of an artist, and what happens when they find themselves barely scraping by? Why does New York City, even in an era of hypergentrification, still beckon to aspiring artists as a place to make art and remake yourself? Author Marin Kosut tackles these questions in the R&D Store at this Summer Chalet Book Event.
- **Tomashi Jackson: *Across the Universe* | August 29**
Deeply committed to social justice, artist Tomashi Jackson creates vibrant paintings, sculptures, videos, and textiles that powerfully explore systemic inequities found throughout US history. Jackson joins us in the R&D store for a book launch and conversation with the artist and Senior Curator, Susan Cross to celebrate the launch of *Tomashi Jackson: Across the Universe*. This is the first book to present an overview of Jackson’s practice.

KIDS & FAMILIES

Camp MASS MoCA 2024 | August 5-30, 2024

Young people entering grades 2–6 are invited to Camp MASS MoCA! Participants explore the expansive campus and world-class art exhibitions and create original works of their own. Sessions offered include: “The History and Future of Magic (Visual Arts, Walking Tour, and Perhaps Magic),” “Audience! Audience! Audience! (Audio/Sound, Group Performance, and

Happening),” “I Can Use This For Something Else (Theater, Puppetry, Installation),” and “The Sky and Earth Are (Not) the Limit (Dance and Promenade Movement.)”

Family Storytime | Third Saturday of each month (Upcoming Dates: June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, November 16, December 21)

Families with children up to 6 years old are invited to join MASS MoCA Museum Educators for a storytime and related exploration in the galleries. Each storytime will feature a different children’s book about contemporary art, creativity, and/or the themes of the exhibitions on display. A brief gallery walk-through and discussion of the art will follow. This program is in partnership with the North Adams Public Library.

[Summer 2024 Press Images](#)

About MASS MoCA

In May 2024, MASS MoCA will celebrate its 25th anniversary under its new Director, Kristy Edmunds, not only as a contemporary art museum and performing arts venue, but also as a creative campus with a regional, national and global impact. MASS MoCA is one of the world’s liveliest centers for making and enjoying today’s most evocative art. With vast galleries and a stunning collection of indoor and outdoor performing arts venues, MASS MoCA is able to embrace all forms of art: music, sculpture, dance, film, painting, photography, theater, and new, boundary-crossing works of art that defy easy classification. From its beginnings as the major textile mill Arnold Print Works in the mid-19th century, to its days as the Sprague Electric Company in the mid-20th century, to its current iteration as a globally renowned contemporary art museum and fabrication center, the 16-acre MASS MoCA campus has a rich history of serving as the economic engine of the city of North Adams and the surrounding region. For more information about MASS MoCA, visit massmoca.org or follow us on Instagram at [@massmoca](https://www.instagram.com/massmoca).

For more information, please contact:

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