

The Center for Contemporary Arts Newly Announces G. Sterling Zinsmeyer as Board Chairman

As 2017 comes to a close, the Center for Contemporary Arts, Santa Fe's oldest non-profit visual arts institution, wraps up a busy and productive year



December 12, 2017 Santa Fe, NM – Santa Fe's Center for Contemporary Arts (CCA) has announced G. Sterling Zinsmeyer as its new Chairman of the Board of Directors. In addition to Zinsmeyer, a heralded veteran in the fields of film and theatrical production, CCA has welcomed five new members to the Board.

Founded in 1979, CCA is one of the oldest artist-centered non-profit organizations in the American Southwest, and has long been committed to supporting the contemporary arts community in Santa Fe and beyond. In 2017, it saw a remarkable rise in attendance. Gallery visits increased by 39%, and membership numbers increased by 44%. Along with dozens of thought-provoking events ranging from artist lectures to live dance performances, CCA showcased nationally recognized, large-scale exhibitions, such as *Tom Joyce: Everything at Hand*, the opening of which coincided with that of the institution's new sculpture garden.

"I am very pleased with the appointment of the new Board leadership," said Stuart Ashman, Executive Director of CCA. "Thanks to the outgoing Board leadership, CCA has been elevated to a new level in the last three years. The enthusiasm and knowledge of Sterling Zinsmeyer and Maria Gales enthusiasm will continue CCA's upward trajectory."

Over the course of the year, CCA's popular Cinematheque offered a remarkable selection of award-winning films, including Oscar favorites as well as critically acclaimed indie releases. The non-profit theater also welcomed internationally recognized guest speakers including activist Dolores Huerta and actor and author Ethan Hawke.

Also in 2017, CCA's main visual arts exhibition space was renamed The Tank Garage, a nod to the building's original use as a service space for U.S. military equipment. The Tank Garage contains the Muñoz/Waxman Gallery and the Spector/Ripps Project space, both of which are display areas, as well as the

Living Room, a new mixed-use space. In the coming year, CCA plans to continue its robust visual arts programming, beginning with a major show for painter Ciel Bergman, a retrospective for multimedia artist Ricardo Mazal, and later in the year, a show of photography and multimedia works by Janet Russek, Paul Cava, and David Scheinbaum.

"I'm extremely honored to have this opportunity to continue the fine leadership that Paul Hultin has brought to CCA," says Zinsmeyer. "This has been a period of historic growth for us and I look forward to lending my vision in collaboration with Board Vice Chair Maria Gale and our entire board to support Stuart and his wonderful team as we continue to grow CCA's reputation as an Arts destination of significance in the West!"

Zinsmeyer's most recent project is "Fellow Travelers," an opera he conceived and commissioned. Based on the Thomas Mallon novel of the same name, the work made its world premiere with the Cincinnati Opera in June 2016 and was named to the *New York Times* list of Best Classical Music for the year. "Fellow Travelers" will return to the stage in 2018 in New York, Chicago, and Minneapolis. His most celebrated film is the 2004 "Latter Days," which was selected for archiving by the Library of Congress. The locally produced "The Deception" premiered at the 2014 Santa Fe Film Festival. The five incoming members to the Board are Eric Garduño, Doris Francis, Marisol A. Navas Sacasa, Karen Durkovich, and Edward Borins.

For more information, photos, or to request an interview please contact Clare Hertel at Clare@ClareHertelCommunications.com or 505-670-3090.

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