‘Manetti Shrem Museum to Open Winter Exhibitions Jan. 27

Note to editors, writers: On the Slant — A Mini-Symposium scheduled for March 4 at the Manetti Shrem Museum has been canceled due to health and safety concerns.

The Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem Museum of Art, at the University of California, Davis, opens three dynamic new exhibitions on Thursday, Jan. 27, that explore multiple visions of resistance and protest through video, and showcase early works by renowned artists William T. Wiley and Mary Heilmann.

The previously announced season opening of Jan. 8 was delayed due to a remote start to the academic quarter.

- “From Moment to Movement: Picturing Protest in the Kramlich Collection” — A large-scale exhibition of six video and film installations from an international, intergenerational group of artists — Shiva Ahmadi, Dara Birnbaum, Kota Ezawa, Theaster Gates, Nalini Malani and Mikhael Subotzky — explores protests from different angles: resistance, the role of media in shaping our understanding of events, and the power and politics of viewing. (Jan. 27-June 19)

- “Mary Heilmann: Squaring Davis” — Decades before she would become a preeminent contemporary abstract painter, Heilmann started studying with William T. Wiley at UC Davis and found a place whose unique life-as-art ethos meshed with her spirit and inspired her to keep creating art despite her doubts. This exhibition reunites Heilmann’s Northern California oeuvre of rarely seen ceramics from the mid-1960s, sculptures and a group of “Davis Square” paintings created in 1977. (Jan. 27-May 7)

- “William T. Wiley and the Slant Step: All on the Line” — Featuring William T. Wiley’s formative early works (1962-69), this exhibition also reunites various works inspired by the odd, iconic Slant Step art object, which jump-started conceptual art in Northern California, and debuts a brand-new digital Slant Step work by Wiley’s grad student, Bruce Nauman. (Jan. 27-May 7)

Changes to programs, ticketing

On the Slant — A Mini-Symposium has been moved to Friday, March 4, from Feb. 4. The Manetti Shrem Museum hosts this in-person and live-streamed program in conjunction with the exhibition “William T. Wiley and the Slant Step: All on the Line.” The symposium brings together leading artists, scholars and other experts to examine the Slant Step from a variety of angles with sessions that focus on different ways of seeing this iconic, ambiguous object.

The previously announced Winter Season Celebration scheduled for Jan. 30 has been canceled.

The museum is open Thursday-Monday with free, timed tickets, which can be reserved at manettishrem.org. All visitors must wear face coverings indoors regardless of vaccination status and show the result of their Daily Symptom Survey before entering the building. For up-to-date information, see the Visitor Toolkit on the museum website.

Visitor Information
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Art Wide Open
The Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem Museum of Art at the University of California, Davis, is a contemporary art museum and cultural resource dedicated to making art accessible and approachable to all. It builds on UC Davis’ legacy of exceptional teaching and practice of the arts to offer engaging experiences and exhibitions that reflect and serve the community, now and for generations to come. The museum shares the university’s core values of innovative research, interdisciplinary experimentation and a commitment to educational programming: It’s a hub of creative practice for thinkers, makers and innovators. One-third of the museum’s 50,000-square-foot space is devoted to instruction, including a 125-seat lecture hall, classroom space and the drop-in Carol and Gerry Parker Art Studio. Opened in November 2016, the museum has earned LEEDv3-NC Platinum status, and has won numerous awards for its distinctive architecture.