



Palm Springs Art Museum's FREE 2nd Sundays Include a Variety of Free Art Activities

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. (February 24, 2015) – Palm Springs Art Museum is proud to present FREE 2nd Sundays, with the next one being held on March 8. FREE 2nd Sundays takes place throughout the entire year offering a combination of free activities that include exhibition viewing, films, lectures and special family art activities.



Author Lisa See

The FREE 2nd Sundays on March 8 will feature *New York Times* best-selling author Lisa See. She will share her writing process and methods, giving insight on how she gets inside the minds of her characters for maximum authenticity. Her novels include *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*, *Peony in Love*, *Shanghai Girls*, and *Dreams of Joy*. In her novel, *Dreams of Joy*, an idealistic young woman runs away to Communist China to take part in the Cultural Revolution. Following the presentation there will be a Q&A session.



Hung Liu, September 2001, 2001, oil on canvas, collection of Driek and Michael Zirinsky (c) Hung Liu. Photo: Ben Blackwell

The topic of the Artful Conversations portion of this FREE 2nd Sundays will be the new exhibition *Summoning Ghosts: The Art of Hung Liu*, and how her richly rendered paintings are drawn from her personal experiences, cultural and political events in China, as well as from literature and photography. The exhibition features more than 65 works, including 34 large-scale paintings as well as personal ephemera such as photographs, sketch books, and informal painting studies from private and public collections around the world. By combining traditional and contemporary methods, Hung Liu's art evokes a sense of past and present at the same time.

The featured film is the second in a series of three feature-length documentaries that explore the history of modern China. *The Mao Years* takes a look at the next period of modern China's history: Mao Zedong's rule, from 1949 to his death in 1976. The film begins with the celebrations marking the establishment of the People's Republic of China, a moment of great hope for millions of Chinese. But the quarter-century of Mao's rule was as turbulent as the decades which preceded it. Interludes of relative calm and increased prosperity were interrupted repeatedly by violent campaigns, purges, and a famine that killed more than 30 million people. It culminated in Mao's colossal and tragic

experiment, the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. When Mao died in 1976, people were exhausted by the turmoil and longed for stability.

Following is a schedule of the various activities:

11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Artful Conversations

Discussion of the new exhibition *Summoning Ghosts: The Art of Hung Liu*.

Location: Hibbert Orientation Center/Admissions Desk

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Portraits: Past, Present, Future

Self-portrait painting and photography activity.

Location: Sheffler/Scheffler Arts Education Space in the Hoover Gallery

Noon

Film

China: A Century of Revolution, Sue Williams, U.S.A, 1989-1997

Location: Annenberg Theater

3 p.m.

Lecture

By best-selling author Lisa See

Location: Lecture Hall

FREE 2nd Sundays are made possible by the generous support from the H.N. and Frances C. Berger Foundation. The museum, located at 101 Museum Drive in Palm Springs, is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursday noon to 8 p.m., and closed Monday. For more information visit www.psmuseum.org or call (760) 322-4800.

About Palm Springs Art Museum

Palm Springs Art Museum is the largest cultural institution in the Coachella Valley and includes three locations in Palm Springs and Palm Desert. The flagship building is located in downtown Palm Springs and features compelling art exhibitions, a vast permanent collection, and the 433-seat Annenberg Theater, all in a 150,000 square foot, architecturally-significant building. Palm Springs Art Museum Architecture and Design Center, Edwards Harris Pavilion features exhibitions and programming that explore the rich topics of architecture and design. Palm Springs Art Museum in Palm Desert is an 8,400 square foot, Silver LEED-certified building named The Galen that presents rotating exhibitions and special collections. It is surrounded by the four-acre Faye Sarkowsky Sculpture Garden featuring important sculpture works. Admission to the Palm Desert location is now free to the public, generously underwritten by Helene V. Galen. For more information, call 760-322-4800, visit www.psmuseum.org, and follow the museum on Facebook, Twitter and InstaGram.