



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Media Contact: Scott Slaven

(323) 697-2971

sslaven@psmuseum.org

**PALM SPRINGS ART MUSEUM ANNOUNCES FIRST SOLO U.S. MUSEUM EXHIBITION  
OF PETRA CORTRIGHT, LEADING FIGURE OF POST-INTERNET ART**

**Artist uses sources native to the age of the internet and digital technology**

PALM SPRINGS, CA (Aug. 20, 2022) The work of Petra Cortright, a leading figure in what is sometimes referred to as the “Post-Internet Art” movement, will be exhibited this fall at Palm Springs Art Museum. *Petra Cortright: sapphire cinnamon viper fairy* will run from Sep. 29, 2022 – Mar. 26, 2023.

Cortright makes art in genres such as landscape and portraiture by using tools, sources, formats, and platforms native to the age of the internet and digital technology. During the early 2000s, she captured the attention of the art world with a series of self-portrait videos that demonstrated unconventional uses of standard special effects. She also makes digital paintings printed on aluminum, linen, and paper. These paintings evoke the work of the Impressionists and other *plein air* painters, but Cortright sources her imagery online, using the internet as a stand-in for nature. These works, nonetheless, exert a powerful physical presence.

“I’m so excited that we are presenting the work of this trailblazing artist,” says **Adam Lerner**, the museum’s JoAnn McGrath Executive Director/CEO. “Petra works with traditional subject matter—landscapes, flowers, still life—but uses a unique set of techniques she developed to create incredibly dense and layered digital works. The final files—which can be massive—are extraordinarily dynamic in both their digital forms and when printed on various materials. Making paintings with her computer, she is at the forefront of a practice that will likely be the mainstream of art-making one day, and we’re thrilled to be able to share these beautiful works with our community and visitors.”

Cortright, the daughter of two artists, grew up in California and studied at California College of the Arts in San Francisco and Parsons School for Design in New York. Because of an early interest in computers, she initially intended to pursue a career in graphic design but felt the pull of fine art. She says, “I am a painter, but I don’t work with paint, and there was very little precedent for painting being done on computers. The only outlet I really had was the internet. I liked using video in a painterly way to see how I could make the live effects feel like brushstrokes. I posted them online because there was nowhere else to put them. That’s how people got to know the work.”

After her video works took off on YouTube, Cortright was selected to participate in the Frieze Art Fair in London and created an acclaimed video self-portrait. She has also collaborated with fashion designer Stella McCartney by using video to showcase and contrast patterns from the garments designed by McCartney. Cortright's works have been in exhibitions at the New Museum in New York, the Venice Biennale, and the O1SJ Biennial. Her work is in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art New York, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Hammer Museum, and MOCA Los Angeles.

*Petra Cortright: sapphire cinnamon viper fairy* is the artist's first museum solo show in the United States.

This season's exhibitions are sponsored by the Herman & Faye Sarkowsky Charitable Foundation and Yvonne & Steve (in memoriam) Maloney.

For more information about Palm Springs Art Museum exhibitions, programs, and events, please visit [psmuseum.org](http://psmuseum.org) or call (760) 322-4800.

###

### **About Palm Springs Art Museum**

Palm Springs Art Museum is an integral part of the rich history of art, design, and architecture that has come to define the Coachella Valley. As the area's largest cultural institution, the museum endeavors to honor the past while being resolutely forward thinking. The museum's mission is to be a welcoming space that embraces all cultures through programs, exhibitions, and experiences that attract and respond to the diverse interests and backgrounds of the community. The flagship building, located in downtown Palm Springs, features compelling art exhibitions, a vast permanent collection, and the Annenberg Theater, all in a 150,000-square-foot, architecturally significant building. Five blocks away, the Palm Springs Art Museum Architecture and Design Center, Edwards Harris Pavilion, features exhibitions exploring the topics of architecture and design.