



**Palm Springs
Art Museum**

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PALM SPRINGS ART MUSEUM REMEMBERS BOB MACKIE

The museum honored the legendary costume and fashion designer at its annual gala, Art Party 2026, earlier this year and presented a special selection of his work in Reflections of Glamour: Bob Mackie

PALM SPRINGS, CA (September 14, 2026) — Palm Springs Art Museum mourns the passing of Bob Mackie, the legendary costume and fashion designer whose extraordinary imagination transformed American entertainment and shaped how generations understand glamour, performance, and personal expression. Mackie died Monday at age 87, as shared by his team.

Earlier this year, the museum honored Mackie for his lifetime contributions to costume and design at Art Party 2026. Carol Burnett presented Mackie with the Art Party Honoree Award, recognizing a creative partnership that produced some of the most memorable costumes in television history.

“Bob Mackie understood that costume could do far more than dress a performer. His designs revealed character, created unforgettable moments, and gave some of the world’s most celebrated artists the freedom to become larger than life,” said Christine Vendredi, JoAnn McGrath Executive Director and Chief Curator. “It was an extraordinary privilege to honor Bob at Palm Springs Art Museum and to celebrate his creative legacy with the collaborators, performers, and friends who knew his work best. His brilliance, generosity, and unmistakable sense of glamour will continue to inspire generations.”

Presented in conjunction with Art Party 2026, *Reflections of Glamour: Bob Mackie* offered an intimate look at Mackie’s creative legacy through five original gowns and costumes and

a curated selection of sketches created between the 1970s and the 2000s. All works were presented courtesy of Bob Mackie, with special thanks to Joe McFate, Design Director for Bob Mackie.

The presentation reflected Mackie's celebrated collaborations with Carol Burnett, Cher, Diana Ross, Elton John, Liza Minnelli, Madonna, and Tina Turner. Among its highlights was the "Starlette O'Hara" gown created for Burnett's legendary "Went With the Wind" parody, presented alongside Mackie's original sketch.



Over a career spanning more than six decades, Mackie received nine Emmy Awards, the Geoffrey Beene CFDA Lifetime Achievement Award, a Tony Award, and three Academy Award nominations. His designs brought wit, theatricality, movement, and spectacle to television, film, theater, concerts, and fashion, establishing a visual language that remains instantly recognizable.

Palm Springs Art Museum extends its deepest condolences to Mackie's family, friends, colleagues, and the many performers and audiences whose lives were enriched by his artistry.

Images by Lani Garfield

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Palm Springs Art Museum is the largest cultural institution in the Coachella Valley and a campus of architecturally significant buildings dedicated to art, architecture, design, and performance. The campus includes the museum's 1975 flagship building designed by E. Stewart Williams, the Architecture and Design Center, Edwards Harris Pavilion, originally designed by Williams in 1961, Frey House II, completed by Albert Frey in 1964, and Aluminaire House™, designed by Albert Frey and A. Lawrence Kocher and originally constructed in 1931. The museum's permanent collection includes more than 20,000 objects spanning modern and contemporary art, architecture and design, photography, studio glass, and art of the Western Americas. Its architecture and design holdings include more than 50,000 architectural assets and ephemera documenting the people, ideas, and built environment that have shaped modern design in Palm Springs and beyond. Each year, the museum welcomes thousands of visitors to experience exhibitions, performances, and public programs across its campus, including free community programs for children and families.