

'RECENT ACQUISITIONS' FINDS CONTINUITY IN A STUNNINGLY DIVERSE CURATION

Continued by Susan Kavelin

RELATED

SHARE

SIMILAR | STORIES



SUMMER OF THE SNOWMAN: JEEZY BRINGS CULTURE

TO ...



HOW TO HAPPILY LOSE AN ENTIRE AFTERNOON IN ...



FREE WILL ASTROLOGY (WEEK OF JULY 9)

SIMILAR | PHOTOS



VANDERPUMP LAS VEGAS OFFICIALLY OPENS

Dawn-Michelle Baude

Wed, Jul 22, 2015 (6:44 p.m.)



THIS MONTH IN LAS VEGAS

Search Events:



July 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Recent Acquisitions Through September 19; Monday-Friday a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Barrick Museum, 702-895-

Ah, the pitfalls of the group art exhibition! The goulash factor looms large. How could it not? Art is valued because it's fiercely distinctive. So when you assemble works by radically different artists—an expressionist still life, say, by Marty Walsh, and a post-conceptualist abstract by Yek—the risk of mishmash is high. So how did UNLV's Marjorie Barrick Museum create a coherent curatorial statement with the terrifically diverse *Recent Acquisitions*?

With a double-dose of quality—both in terms of the works themselves and their presentation. Collaboratively curated by UNLV Galleries staff and UNLV Galleries Advisory Board member Shannon McMackin, the exhibition features first-rate paintings, sculptures, photographs and videos by 32 artists connected to Vegas. From minimalism to remodernism, surrealism to pop, the show bops stylistically all over the place. But *Recent Acquisitions* also literally hangs together in a meaningful display that enhances both individual and collective presentation.

At the entrance, Nicolas Shake's "Untitled," a delicate Friendly Plastic cast of desert detritus with shovel and tire treads, greets visitors like a phantom semaphore, pointing the way from

CURRENT ISSUE



TRENDING NOW



HOROSCOPES



LAS VEGAS WEEKLY PHOTOSTRIP



EVENTS

NEWS

NIGHTLIFE

A&E

FOOD & DRINK

PHOTOS

MAGAZINE

SUPERGUIDE

GIVEAWAYS

WEEKLY SHOP

2025 BEST OF VEGAS

SUBSCRIBE

SUBMIT AN EVENT

black/white, vertical/horizontal, figure/ground.

As the show progresses, it multiplies affinities and techniques. Habegger’s architecture echoes across the room in Mark Brandvik’s portrait of the El Morocco hotel. Both futurist and retro, “Morocco II” features flirty, curvy arches and a saucy palm. Nearby, Danielle Kelly’s mixed-media “Blanket” bobs seductively in the spotlight—suspended on meat hooks, the three clothed anthropomorphic forms, outfitted in fringe and beads, relay narratives of power and submission while provoking both playfulness and unease. Do they want to be hugged or punched? “Blanket,” in turn, iterates the curved motif in Justin Favela’s adjacent “Estandas” sign. And the curves in Brent Sommerhauser’s mysterious, cosmological “Arch” drawing, which echoes in ... which echoes in ...

The continuity in the hanging is nothing short of stunning, the challenge of finding the sweet spots for the following diametrically opposed styles and interests: Michael Reafsy faux-naïve expressionist painting; Patricia Burns’ archival d print of rebellious, cyborg lamps; Erin Stellmon’s deceptive media surrealist landscape; Brian Zimmerman’s withering sculpture; and Sam Davis’ pseudo-absurd collaged photo, others.

Yet the works do more than successfully coexist in *Recent Acquisitions*. The exhibition emits a strong signal that this joint venture by the Las Vegas Art Museum and the Barrick is aimed at building a coherent permanent collection that does Las Vegas proud.

Tags: Arts & Entertainment

SHARE

THIS MONTH IN LAS VEGAS

Search Events:

July 2026						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

CURRENT ISSUE

+

TRENDING NOW

+

HOROSCOPES

+

LAS VEGAS WEEKLY PHOTOSTRIP

+

MORE FINE ART STORIES

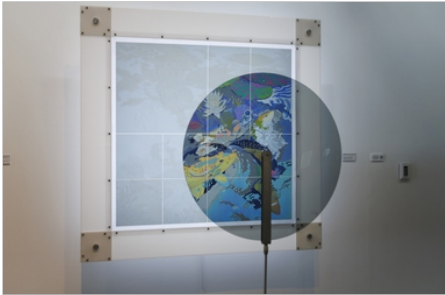


Art emblazoned on a new five-story apartment building, shareWESTSIDE, reflect the identity of Las Vegas' first African American neighborhood.



'RHYTHM AND RESILIENCE: BLACK VEGAS' HIGHLIGHTS THE LEGACY OF THE CITY'S AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

"Rhythm and Resilience" is on display through August 20 at the new Civic Center Gallery.



'THREE GENERATIONS OF POLARIZED LIGHT ART' TURNS VIEWERS INTO PARTICIPANTS AT SAHARA WEST LIBRARY

Austine Wood Comarow invented "Polage," short for polarized collage, and brought it to Las Vegas in 1976, spawning a lineage of artistry.

THIS MONTH IN LAS VEGAS

Search Events:

July 2026						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Get More Fine Art Stories

CURRENT ISSUE



TRENDING NOW



HOROSCOPES



LAS VEGAS WEEKLY PHOTOSTRIP



EVENTS	NEWS	NIGHTLIFE	A&E	FOOD & DRINK	PHOTOS	MAGAZINE	SUPERGUIDE	GIVEAWAYS	WEEKLY SHOP
2025 BEST OF VEGAS	SUBSCRIBE	SUBMIT AN EVENT							

THIS MONTH IN LAS VEGAS

Search Events:

July 2026						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

CURRENT ISSUE

+

TRENDING NOW

+

HOROSCOPES

+

LAS VEGAS WEEKLY PHOTOSTRIP

+