

A SITE-SPECIFIC, INTERNATIONAL CONTEMPORARY ART EXHIBITION FOR THE CALIFORNIA DESERT

NEW DESERT X PODCAST SERIES EDUCATES, INSPIRES AND ENTERTAINS VISITORS AS THEY DRIVE AND EXPERIENCE THE EXHIBITION

DOWNLOAD THE FREE PODCAST AT DESERTX.ORG, ITUNES AND OTHER PODCAST APPS

















Palm Springs, Calif., – <u>Desert X</u> announced today the completion of an eight-part **DX19** <u>podcast</u> series produced to accompany the critically acclaimed, site-specific international contemporary art exhibition now on view at sites across the Coachella Valley through April 21.

The new, first-time DX19 podcast series is created to be a modern take on a mobile audio tour to educate, inspire and entertain visitors as they drive and experience Desert X 2019. Acclaimed design journalist **Frances Anderton** talks with Desert X 2019 artists and curators to explore the exhibition's environmental, ecological and social themes such as fossil fuel use, rising sea levels, and class divides.

The series includes:

John Gerrard on Western Flag and our shared petro-history
Rasmus Nielsen of Superflex on fish friendly architecture
Nancy Baker Cahill's ephemeral sculptures
Cristobal Martinez of Postcommodity on listening to desert Modern architecture
Kathleen Ryan on fragility and power
Gary Simmons on sound and place
Ivån Argote on reflections of time and scale
Sterling Ruby on the illusion of image

The DX19 podcast series, which is free to all, is co-produced and edited by Anderton with **Avishay Artsy**. Anderton hosts KCRW's weekly radio show *DnA: Design and Architecture*; Artsy produces it. The DX19 podcast is now available on <u>iTunes</u>, other podcast apps and at <u>desertx.org</u>. It is presented by Lead Sponsor <u>Canoo</u>, formerly known as <u>Project Evelozcity</u>, which is creating electric vehicles that will be available by subscription.

Free and open to the public, the recurring Desert X exhibition is curated by Artistic Director Neville Wakefield and 2019 Co-Curators Amanda Hunt and Matthew Schum to activate the desert landscape through eighteen site-specific installations and performances by some of today's most recognized international contemporary artists, including Iván Argote, Steve Badgett & Chris Taylor, Nancy Baker Cahill, Cecilia Bengolea, Pia Camil, John Gerrard, Julian Hoeber, Iman Issa, Mary Kelly, Armando Lerma, Eric N. Mack, Cinthia Marcelle, Postcommodity, Cara Romero, Sterling Ruby, Kathleen Ryan, Gary Simmons and Superflex. The exhibition explores ideas of site-specificity, the frame of post-institutional art and the interactive possibilities that attend it, and embraces a range of ecological, environmental and social issues.

The inaugural Desert X in 2017 also garnered international critical and popular acclaim for an exhibition of site-specific artworks and installation projects by some of today's most recognized contemporary artists, including Doug Aitken, Lita Albuquerque, Jennifer Bolande, Will Boone, Claudia Comte, Jeffrey Gibson, Sherin Guirguis, Norma Jeane, Glenn Kaino, Gabriel Kuri, Armando Lerma, Richard Prince, Rob Pruitt, Julião Sarmento, Phillip K. Smith III and Tavares Strachan. It attracted an audience of more than 200,000 diverse and multi-generational, local and international visitors over nine weeks. The exhibition engaged millions across social and digital media channels and was the recipient of multiple awards for its extensive education and community programs and partnerships, which enrolled hundreds of local and national volunteers, docents, educators, and students.

Desert X Catalog

New in 2019 and coinciding with the second edition of the exhibition is the launch of *Desert X 2017*, a 240-page, full color volume, exploring the concept and ideas around Desert X through interviews with the sixteen artists who participated in the inaugural exhibition. Published by PPP Editions, the book includes a foreword by Ed Ruscha, essays by Bill Fox, Holly Willis and Neville Wakefield, editorial coordination by Steven Biller and is edited by Andrew Roth and Neville Wakefield. Priced at \$45.00 *Desert X 2017* can be purchased online at desertx.org and at Desert X hubs until April 21, 2019.

Desert X Hubs

The three Desert X Hubs, where visitors can pick up a map and printed progam and browse information about the exhibition and its participating artists, are located across the valley at the following addresses:

Indio 82713 Miles Avenue Indio, CA 92201

Palm Desert 73660 El Paseo Palm Desert, CA 92260

Palm Springs
Ace Hotel & Swim Club
701 E Palm Canyon Drive,
Palm Springs, CA 92264

Bus Tours

Tickets for public bus tours at \$75.00 are available every Saturday and Sunday at 9:00am and at 2:00pm. Tickets can be purchased here.

Plan your visit

Partnerships with more than twenty-five local organizations, hotels and purveyors across the Coachella Valley offer an array of special discounts to Desert X visitors. For further information and to plan your visit: https://www.desertx.org/plan-your-visit/

Please visit <u>desertx.org</u> for up to date information about the 2019 Desert X artists' projects, a site map, details of exhibition-related programming and events and Parallel Programs.

Desert X is funded by its board of directors, an extraordinary group of donors and municipalities, and by Canoo, formerly known as Project Evelozcity, its lead sponsor.

Media Partners: Art in America, artnet, ARTnews, *frieze* magazine, Greater Palm Springs Convention & Visitors Bureau, Here TV, Palm Springs Life Magazine and The Desert Sun part of the USA Today Network.

A full list of donors, sponsors and partners can be found here.

Image credits from left to right, top to bottom: Gary Simmons, *Recapturing Memories Of The Black Arc*, 2014-2019; Sterling Ruby, *Specter*, 2019; Kathleen Ryan, *Ghost Palm*, 2019; Superflex, *Dive-In*, 2019; Postcommodity, *It Exists in Many Forms*, 2019; Iván Argote, *A Point Of View*, 2019; Nancy Baker Cahill, *Revolutions*, 2019; John Gerrard, *Western Flag (Spindletop, Texas) 2017*, 2017-2019; all images by Lance Gerber, courtesy Desert X.

ABOUT CANOO

<u>Canoo</u>, formerly known as Project Evelozcity, is a Los Angeles-based electric vehicle (EV) and mobility services company that is creating subscription-based mobility for urban needs. The boutique Californian EV brand plans to launch its first vehicle in 2021 in smart cities, first in the U.S., and in China to follow. For more information, please visit https://www.wecanoo.com or follow us on Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook or Instagram.

ABOUT DESERT X

Desert X is produced by Desert Biennial, a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) charitable organization founded in 2015. Its mission is to bring the finest international artists to the Coachella Valley to create art, engage viewers, and focus attention on the Valley's environment — its natural wonders as well as socio-political-economic issues that make it vibrant, curious, and exciting, while also focusing attention on the creative energy of the participating artists and their work.

To get involved and support Desert X as a benefactor or sponsor, please contact jenny@desertx.org. For more information and upcoming events, visit desertx.org.

MEDIA AND VIP RELATIONS

Lyn Winter, Inc.
lyn@lynwinter.com
@lynwinter

Contact: Livia Mandoul, livia@lynwinter.com

FOLLOW DESERT X

Instagram: @_desertx
Facebook: Facebook.com/DesertX/
Twitter @_DesertX
#DesertX
#DX19

ENDS