



AKRON ART MUSEUM

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Akron Art Museum presents GLOW: Neon & Light

On View from September 21, 2024 – February 9, 2025

Akron, OH: *GLOW: Neon & Light* will open at the Akron Art Museum in the Karl and Bertl Arnstein Galleries on Saturday, September 21, 2024. This group exhibition will feature works created with analog materials like glass, mirrors, light bulbs, and neon tubes. Over twenty spectacular and immersive works will cover the galleries, creating a beautiful array

Rather than text-based artworks typically associated with neon, this exhibition will feature sculptural installations with three dimensional explorations of lights. Visitors will learn more about light's scientific properties, including the different chemical elements—like neon and argon—that illuminate when inserted into electrified glass tubes.

Although every work of art in the show will include an element of light, the conceptual ideas and visual styles will range from minimalist to maximalist. Some artists in the exhibition juxtapose lights with different materials, like wood, fractured glass, mirrors, and even the interiors of VHS tape cassettes. Some bend their own glass to create neon objects, some work with special manufacturers, and others recycle commercial neon and found objects.

“We are very excited to present an exciting artistic medium like neon and light to the galleries.”

Says CEO Jon Fiume. “This exhibition invites our visitors to explore and immerse themselves in the intersection of art, science, and perception. It reflects our commitment to presenting innovative and thought-provoking art that not only illuminates our galleries but also sparks curiosity and conversation.”

“I curated GLOW with a few questions I wanted to explore: how are artists creating three-dimensional sculptures using light? How does light interact and play in physical space? How does light engage with time? What are the kinds of sensory experiences that visitors can have in our space?” Says Curator Wendy Earle who curated the show. “In thinking about these questions and talking with artists who use neon and light as the basis of their artistic practice, I think we’ve created a special show that really is a love letter to the medium of neon. Come see the light, hear the buzz of the electricity, and feel the warmth (but don’t touch the art!).”

For media inquiries and image requests, please email Matthew Hribar at mhribar@akronartmuseum.org.

For more information about the Akron Art Museum, visit akronartmuseum.org. Join the conversation on social media using #AkronArtMuseum and follow the Museum on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, TikTok, and LinkedIn.

Michelangelo Lovelace: Art Saved My Life is made possible by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, The Lehner Family Foundation, Mary and Dr. George L. Demetros Charitable Trust, the John P. Murphy Foundation, and the Kenneth L. Calhoun Charitable Trust. This project was supported [in part] by the Ohio Arts Council, which receives support from the State of Ohio and the National Endowment for the Arts.

About the Akron Art Museum

The Akron Art Museum, dedicated to enriching lives through modern and contemporary art, showcases regional, national, and international art created since 1850. The Museum's collection is presented in a spectacular facility designed by Viennese architectural firm Coop Himmelb(l)au and includes over 7,000 works of art, with a strong focus on contemporary painting, sculpture, and photography. Nearly a dozen exhibitions each year present prominent artists in various media including painting, sculpture, photography, video, design, and glass.

Museum Information

Address: One South High, Akron, OH 44308

Tel: 330.376.9186

Fax: 330.376.1180

Website: AkronArtMuseum.org

Gallery Hours: Wednesday–Sunday: 11 am–5 pm, Thursday: 11 am–9 pm

Shop Hours: Wednesday–Sunday: 11 am–5 pm, Thursday: 11 am–9 pm

Bud and Susie Rogers Garden Hours: Wednesday–Sunday: 11 am–5 pm, Thursday: 11 am–9 pm (weather permitting)

Admission: Adult general admission is \$12, Senior (65+) general admission is \$10, Student (with valid ID) \$8, University of Akron Students, Faculty, and Staff (with valid Zip Card) receive complimentary admission, Children (17 and under) are FREE, members receive complimentary admission, Adult with Ohio EBT card \$3 (discount available for up to 4 adults per EBT card). Gallery admission is FREE every Thursday.

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