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**Pequot Museum Kicks Off Contemporary Art Exhibition, *Without a Theme*,
with Artist Reception on March 31**

*Immersive Display Features 20 Vibrant, Large-Format Installations from
Seven Premier North American Artists*

MASHANTUCKET, Conn. – Jan. 31, 2017 – The [Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center](#) announced today it will kick off its season with a newly curated contemporary art exhibition and artist reception on March 31. Titled *Without a Theme*, the immersive display showcases approximately 20 vibrant, large-format installations from seven premier North American artists. The exhibition will be housed in the Mashantucket Gallery until Nov. 2 and is included in general museum admission.

A free reception will be held on March 31, from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. Guests will enjoy the first look at this world-class compilation and the opportunity to meet featured artists from across the U.S. and Canada. This event is open to the public, and hors d'oeuvres prepared by the Pequot Cafe's acclaimed executive chef, Sherry Pocknett, will be served. For more information please click [here](#).

"*Without a Theme* is an important concept behind this incredible contemporary collection," said Tahnee Ahtoneharjo-Growingthunder, curator, Pequot Museum. "We strategically immerse visitors in large, vibrant installations – letting the purpose, message and emotion of each piece move the individual. This is in mindful contrast to popular Native exhibits in which emphasis is placed on the artist's heritage, or on visual themes that don't necessarily convey modern Native life. Our focus on color and composition - rather than theme - allows the artists' connections to their community and their purpose to speak for itself."

Exhibition pieces are composed of acrylic, mixed media, glass, sterling, and organic materials. Featured artists include: Jeff Kahm, Saskatchewan, Canada; Bob Haozous, New Mexico; Allan Houser, Oklahoma; Courtney Leonard, N.Y.; Isaac Dial, Utah; Russel Frye, New Mexico; and Joe Feddersen, Washington.

The museum will offer inspirational and educational artist lectures, student and youth activities, and other special programming tied to *Without a Theme* in coming months. Through the artists and their works, scholars and participants will examine the diverse narratives of modern Native life through artistic expression. For more details, please contact the Pequot Museum.

About Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center

[The Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center](#) is a non-profit educational institution that seeks to further knowledge and understanding of the richness and diversity of the indigenous cultures and societies of the U.S. and Canada. The museum consists of permanent exhibits, the Mashantucket Gallery, classrooms, a 320-seat auditorium, restaurant, and museum shop, while the research center houses collections, libraries, archives, and archaeology and conservation laboratories.

The world's largest Native American museum, The Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center serves as a major resource on the histories and cultures of Native Americans in the northeast and on the region's rich natural history.

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