

## Orlando Museum of Art Exclusive: Discover the **Denver Art Scene** with Artful



Artful is delighted to partner with the **Orlando Museum of Art Acquisition Trust** to offer a unique in-depth exploration of the contemporary art scene in Denver. Join Artful Wednesday, **April 27th** through Saturday, **April 30th** for 3 days of behind-the-scenes experiences sampling the best that Denver has to offer. We will visit essential shows of the moment, meet influential curators and collectors, and investigate artists' studios, all while staying at a luxury hotel and enjoying the city's most delicious cuisine.

Our trip begins **WEDNESDAY** with a check-in at the **Art Hotel Denver**, part of the distinctive Curio Collection by Hilton. The Art Hotel is conveniently located in the Golden Triangle Creative District of Denver with a half-dozen museums within a 10 minutes' walk. Enjoy the breadth of the postmodern artwork displayed throughout the hotel as well as the beautiful backdrop of mountain and city views. This hotel prides itself on creativity, community, and heartfelt service.



Left: Denver Union Train Station, by Colin Lloyd via Pexels; Right: The Art Hotel Denver, Curio Collection by Hilton. Image via The Art Hotel Denver.



Our art programing begins **THURSDAY** morning with a kick-off breakfast led by Artful's art educator, **Andrea Feldman Falcione**. Andrea's professional career started at The Museum of Modern Art, New York where she curated exhibitions and researched acquisitions. After nine years at MoMA, she moved to Los Angeles to work with collectors and philanthropists, such as Eli Broad and Michael Ovitz, helping to build their collections. In 2007 she founded her own art advisory business traveling the world to build art collections for a small group of internationally based collectors. Andrea holds a BA degree from Brown University in Art History and lives in Los Angeles. Andrea is thrilled to be a part of Artful's team, and she will act as your lead guide for the entire trip.

After our introductory breakfast, we will walk to the **Clyfford Still Museum**. Joyce Tsai, museum Director, will lead us on a private tour of the remarkable

collection as well as some behind-the-scenes peeks into their archives and conservation lab. This award-winning museum, explicitly designed to display Clyfford Still's art, houses nearly all his works – dating from 1920 to 1979. A leading figure in Abstract Expressionists, Clyfford Still advanced a new powerful approach to painting after WWII, but he withdrew from the art world in the early 1950s severing ties with galleries and deciding to keep much of his work rather than sell it. Upon his death in 1980, Still bequeathed his art to "an American city" that would agree to maintain his collection and never sell, give or exchange it. Still's wife, Patricia, chose Denver as the American city that would receive Still's pieces. The Clyfford Still Museum opened in November of 2011 with 94% of the artist's total works. Today, the Still Museum affords us the unique opportunity to better understand the legacy of one of America's most elusive and yet prominent abstract expressionists.



Image: Clyfford Still Museum, Denver, CO, photo by by James Florio

Next we will proceed to the **Denver Art Museum**. Known as DAM, the property houses 70,000+ diverse works of art, boasting one of the largest collections between the West Coast and Chicago. It is especially known for its collections of Native American and Western art, as well as for its stunning architecture. At DAM, we will view their collection with the help of a curator-led private tour.

We will pause our tour for lunch at **The Ponti**, conveniently located within DAM. The Ponti is co-owned and run by Chef Jennifer Jasinski, awarded Best Chef: Southwest by the James Beard Society. Chef Jasinski has designed a menu that she refers to as “vegetable forward, but not vegetarian” focusing on food that is light, energizing and nutritious, yet also sumptuous and pleasing to the eye – the perfect mid-day fare for art lovers.

After lunch, we will visit our first collector home of the trip. **Cathey Finlon** is a successful advertising executive and entrepreneur. Cathey has supported the DAM as a trustee for over twenty years. Cathey started as a collector, buying chairs from the 1950's and evolved to photography. Her collection focus is on photography and video with works by Jennifer Steinkamp and Marilyn Minter, and Japanese photographs. She sees her photography collection “...much more focused on ideas: feminist ideas, female ideas that were kind of natural for me to think about. Also, they are about equality and diversity, religion, privacy, isolation, loneliness, consumerism, and other ideas along those lines.”



FRIDAY will begin with a visit to the **Museum of Contemporary Art Denver (MCA Denver)**. Founded in 1996 when a small group of local philanthropists banded together with a mission to celebrate the art of our time in the heart of Denver, MCA Denver became this city's first institution devoted entirely to contemporary art. After years of operating in a renovated fish market, MCA Denver moved (in 2007) to a new environmentally sustainable facility designed by David Adjaye and intentionally built to minimize boundaries between the exterior city and the interior galleries of the museum. Here we will meet with **Nora Abrams**, who is the Mark G. Falcone director of MCA Denver. She will help us explore and appreciate this amazing contemporary collection.

We will enjoy lunch nearby at **Mercantile Dining and Provision**. Opened in 2014, Mercantile Dining & Provision is Chef Alex Seidel's second restaurant, showcasing the craftsmanship of local farmers, producers, purveyors, and the professional skills of their team. Chef Seidel was awarded the James Beard Award for Best Chef: Southwest in 2018. Mercantile Dining & Provision offers signature takes on elevated comfort food. The restaurant follows in the footsteps of Chef Seidel's award-winning Fruition Restaurant, creating seasonally inspired dishes.



Bottom left: Denver Art Museum, Frederic C. Hamilton Building. Image by Alex Fradkin. Top right: Dish at The Ponti Restaurant. Image via The Ponti, Denver.



After lunch it is a very short walk to the home of collector **Mark Falcone**. Mark is a successful real estate investor and local philanthropist. Throughout his career Mark has been actively engaged in the dialog to advance more sustainable settlement patterns within his industry and amongst public policy makers. Over the years Mark has served in several volunteer leadership positions focused on the issues and challenges of the built environment. Currently, Mark is a member of the University of Denver Board of Trustees, he serves as Vice-Chair of the Biennial of the Americas Board and he is Trustee Emeritus of the Museum of Contemporary Art Denver. His collection focuses on local and emerging contemporary artists all housed in an Adjaye-designed house.

On **SATURDAY** we have the pleasure of visiting a second collector home. The home of **Lanny and Sharon Martin** is considered one of the best collections in the Denver area. The collection includes works by great artists such as Sheila Hicks, Frank Stella, Mel Bochner and Clyfford Still. Lanny joined the Denver Art Museum Board of Trustees in 1994. In 2013, he was named Chairman of the Board of Trustees, a position he continues to hold. In honor of contributions made by Lanny and Sharon to the Frederic C. Hamilton Building Capital Campaign, one of the museum's primary exhibition galleries is named in honor of the Martins, as is the plaza, which connects the museum to the adjacent neighborhood. The Martins care deeply for the Denver Art Museum and have wholeheartedly supported the mission of the museum's multi-year exhibitions and programming fund.

After a nearby lunch, we will shift gears from looking at where art ends to where it begins: in the artist's studio. Born in Guyana, South America, **Suchitra Mattai** has both a Master's and MFA from the University of Pennsylvania. Suchitra is represented by several galleries, including Hollis Taggart in NYC and K Contemporary locally. She has exhibited at ICA San Francisco, MCA Chicago and at many fairs with Kavi Gupta of Chicago. The Boston Globe commented on a recent show that "Suchitra Mattai's gorgeous 'Self Portrait as a Stranger' unpacks tangled histories...a worn, floral, oriental-style carpet unzips to reveal the artist looking directly at us, although her face is largely concealed with embroidery thread and other bright textiles. That commanding gaze insists that we wrestle with a subject, not an object: a woman radiant and tattered, a product of migration, hard work, and code-switching." While her practice includes a wide range, her primary interests include the complex relationship between the natural and artificial worlds and the questioning of historical and authoritative narratives, especially those surrounding colonialism.

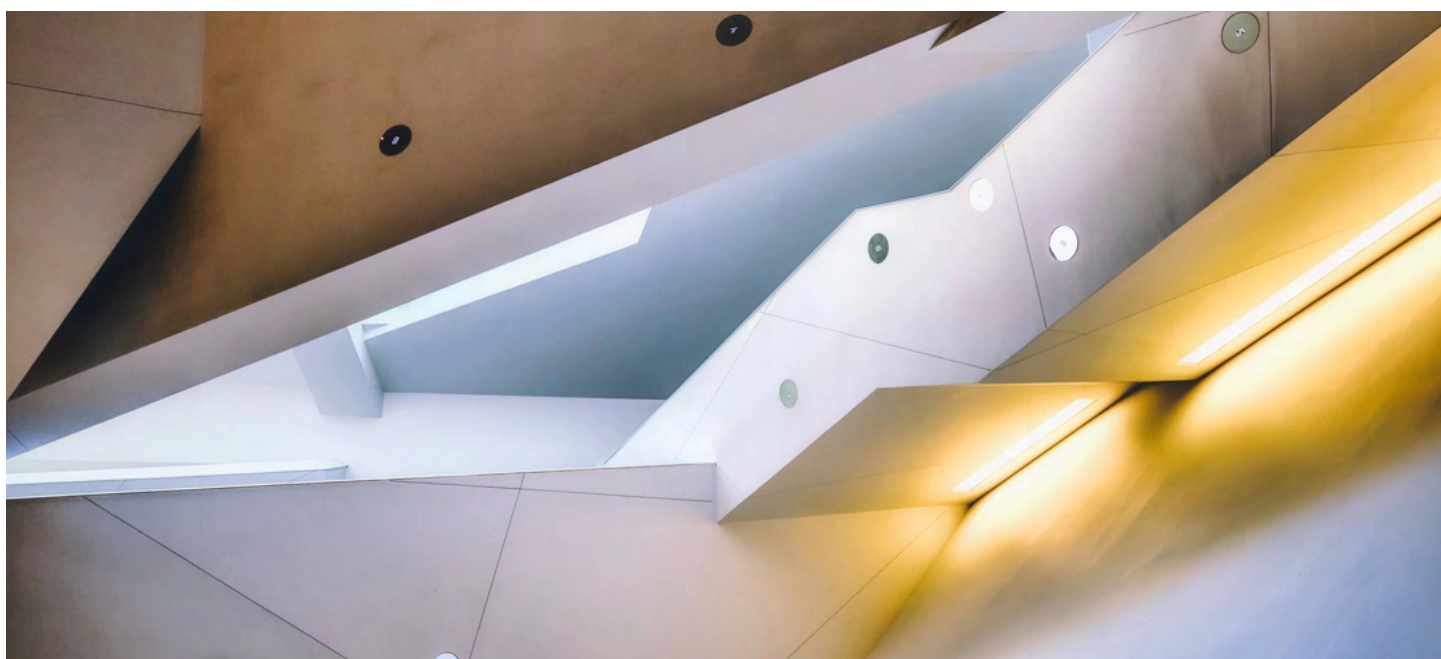


Image: Suchitra Mattai, "A song for the forgotten," 2021, acrylic, vintage saris, found patio lounge, ceramic objects, zip ties, cloth rings, tassel, and hair curlers, dimensions variable

Our trip will conclude with a festive farewell dinner at **Bistro Vendôme**. Located in Denver's Larimer Square, Bistro Vendôme evokes the look and feel of a long-established, family-owned bistro in Paris. With a foundation of classical French cuisine, the carefully crafted menu is served in a comfortable and charming environment and focuses on a lighter and more contemporary influence. With a selection of over 65 different French wines, expect an authentic French dining experience while sharing highlights of the trip with your fellow travelers.

*Our OMA experience is priced at \$4000 per person and includes all transportation, lodging, and specific meals during your trip. A \$100 donation (included in the trip price) will go to Orlando Museum of Art. This trip is limited to 16 guests and **your booking is requested by March 30, 2022**. A minimum of 12 guests is required to operate this trip.*

*No refund will be provided for cancellations since registration is within sixty days of the trip's start date. If the museum has another patron to fill a spot a substitution will be allowed. After the trip has commenced, no refunds are available, even if Client does not partake in all of the trip's activities or leaves the trip early. We highly recommend trip insurance offered when booking. Please contact Denise Bafti for assistance with booking at (781) 658-2270.*



Top right: Dining at Bistro Vendôme, image via Bistro Vendôme. Bottom center: Source: Andrew Coop, Denver Art Museum.