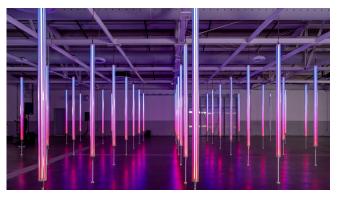
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(Left): Tianyi Sun and Fiel Guhit. Courtesy of the artists.

(Right): Ezra Masch. Volumes, 2024. Courtesy of the artist. Photography by David Avila.

Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts Announces Two Immersive Exhibitions for Winter/Spring 2026

OMAHA, Neb. (November 24, 2025) — Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts is thrilled to present two immersive exhibitions — *Close to the Clouds: Encountering Digital Diasporas* and *Ezra Masch: VOLUMES* — opening January 16, 2026. On view through May 3, 2026, both exhibitions invite audiences into richly sensorial environments that challenge perceptions and explore the evolving intersections of identity, technology, sound, and space.

Close to the Clouds: Encountering Digital Diasporas

Curated by 2024–2025 Curator-in-Residence **Kathy Cho**, **Close to the Clouds** considers how the formation of collective identities takes place utilizing technology and the internet. Featuring work by **Basel Abbas and Ruanne Abou-Rahme**, **Zainab Aliyu**, **Rindon Johnson**, **Lauren Lee McCarthy and Kyle McDonald**, **Rebeca Romero**, and **Tianyi Sun and Fiel Guhit**, the exhibition offers a compelling snapshot of artistic practices at the intersection of migration, memory, and media.

Presented through interactive installations, immersive video works, and emerging technologies, the exhibition centers digital space as both archive and space for exploration — examining how dispersed communities connect through code, livestreams, and algorithmic intimacy.

Participating artists have been featured in institutions and publications such as the Museum of Modern Art, Venice Biennale, Ars Electronica, Artforum, and more. Together, their work renders visible the emotional texture of diasporic life in the digital age.

"This exhibition is a reflection of our current times and deeply resonant," said Kathy Cho, who researched and curated the exhibition while living on-site at Bemis Center. "It's been a privilege to think through complex themes alongside the artists and their work, with a focus on how it feels to be part of these various communities and how our everyday relationships to technology affect our understanding of ourselves."

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Ezra Masch: VOLUMES

An acclaimed artist known for his cross-disciplinary approach to sound, light, and architecture, **Ezra Masch** brings his groundbreaking installation **VOLUMES** to Bemis Center, curated by Chief Curator and Director of Programs **Rachel Adams**.

Austin, Texas-based Masch — whose work has been exhibited at institutions including the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (Richmond, Va.), The Ringling (Sarasota, Fla.), Mattress Factory (Pittsburgh, Pa.), and Bozar, The Centre for Fine Arts (Brussels, Belgium) — transforms Bemis's galleries into an instrument in itself. *VOLUMES* is an interactive audio-visual installation that translates live-performed percussion into synchronized bursts of light and movement, allowing viewers to see sound and hear space in real time.

"We are honored to host Ezra Masch alongside the powerful voices in *Close to the Clouds,*" said Rachel Adams. "Together, these exhibitions transform our galleries into multisensory landscapes — spaces where sound, light, and digital traces come alive in ways that invite active participation, reflection, and awe."

Close to the Clouds: Encountering Digital Diasporas and Ezra Masch: VOLUMES are generously supported, in part, by the Nebraska Arts Council and Nebraska Cultural Endowment.

Public Programs

Bemis Center invites the community to participate in a series of exhibition–focused special engagements, including an **Opening Reception on January 16** with complimentary libations, light hors d'oeuvres, and dynamic music performances by Omaha–based artists Dana Murray at 7 p.m. and Kendall Wooden at 8 p.m. Current Bemis Center members may also join us for an exclusive exhibition preview and Meet + Greet with exhibiting artists and curators directly preceding the public reception, from 6 to 7 p.m.

Admission to all programs and tours is free; ticket reservations are encouraged. Visit bemiscenter.org/events for details.

Friday, January 16, 7-9 p.m.	Exhibitions Opening Reception + VOLUMES
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Performances with Dana Murray and Kendall Wooden

Saturday, January 17, 3 p.m. Live Site-Responsive Performance with Artists Tianyi

Sun and Fiel Guhit

Thursday, January 22, 7 p.m. Curator-Led Tour with Rachel Adams

Saturday, February 7, 3 p.m. Exhibitions Highlights Tour

Friday, February 20, 7 p.m. VOLUMES Performance with George Burton

Saturday, March 7, 3 p.m. OMA ARTalks

Thursday, March 19, 7 p.m. Lecture with Dr. Jacinda Tran, Visiting Lecturer in the

Program of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at

Dartmouth College

Saturday, March 21, 3 p.m. Exhibitions Highlights Tour

Saturday, March 28, 3 p.m. VOLUMES performance with Phill Smith — part of Open

House / Open Studios

Thursday, April 16, 7 p.m. Curator-Led Tour with Rachel Adams

Saturday, April 25, 3 p.m. Exhibitions Highlights Tour

Saturday, May 2, 4 p.m. VOLUMES Performance with Mark Guiliana

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Exhibition Details and Visitor Information

Exhibition Dates: January 16-May 3, 2026

Location: Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, 724 South 12th Street, Omaha, NE 68102 Gallery Hours starting January 17: Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and until 9 p.m. on Thursday

Admission: Free

For press inquiries or to schedule an interview, please contact Rachel Grace at (531) 466-5256 or press@bemiscenter.org.

Media kits, including high-resolution images of select works, are available at bemiscenter.org/press.

About Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts

Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts facilitates the creation, presentation, and understanding of contemporary art through an international residency program, exhibitions, and educational programs to inspire an open and diverse dialogue on the critical issues that give shape and meaning to the human condition. Learn more at bemiscenter.org.

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