



THE MESA

Show Time

The **ATKINSON GALLERY** at Santa Barbara City College is one of the best places in the city to see contemporary art; and John Connelly, the gallery's new director, is likely to make it even better.

A Baltimore native, Connelly spent almost three decades in New York City, where he helmed the Andrea Rosen Gallery, ran his own gallery, and (more recently) directed the Felix Gonzalez-Torres Foundation. He's also armed with a master's degree from New York City's Hunter College. ("I'm a big proponent of city and state schools for the value of the education," he says.)

Given his background, it's no surprise he has exciting plans for the gallery. His first exhibition, "Eleven Figures," opens January 10 featuring figurative works by contemporary Southern California artists who Connelly admires or has worked with in the past, including Manjari Sharma and Xaviera Simmons. Artist lectures will accompany the exhibition, and

Connelly has access to the gallery's annex—the John Dunn Gourmet Dining Room—to display work. In addition to the annual juried student show each spring, Connelly's future projects include a series of exhibitions entitled "What is America?" that will explore American identity. Stay tuned. 721 Cliff Dr., Santa Barbara, 805-965-0581, gallery.sbcc.edu. L.D. PORTER



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Director John Connelly in front of SBCC's Atkinson Gallery; Manjari Sharma's *Untitled* from the series *Surface Tension*, 2019, archival pigment print, 40 x 60 in., courtesy of the artist; Xaviera Simmons's *Index Four, Composition Five*, 2013, chromogenic color print, 50 x 40 in., courtesy of the artist and David Castillo Gallery, Miami.

She Sings Poetry by the Shore

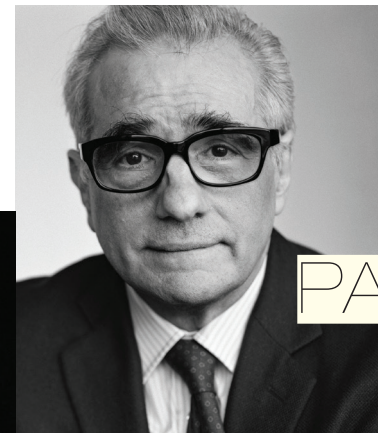
Iconic singer/songwriter, author, and poet **PATTI SMITH** is performing an intimate concert by the sea on March 3 for a very lucky crowd to benefit the Council on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse. The oceanfront soiree will be curated by Merryl Brown Events and feature Barden Wines. Pattismith.cadasb.org.



PHOTOGRAPHS: JOHN CONNELLY, JODI DE MARCOS; PATTI SMITH, COURTESY OF STEVEN SEPRING

PHOTOGRAPHS: MARTIN SCORSESE, COURTESY OF SBIFF

LEFT TO RIGHT: Renée Zellweger as Judy Garland; director Martin Scorsese.



DOWNTOWN

SILVER SCREEN

With a glittering black-tie gala dinner that honored Oscar-winning director Martin Scorsese with the prestigious Kirk Douglas Award for Excellence in Film, the **SANTA BARBARA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL** has kicked off its 35th season. The event, which took place on November 14 at The Ritz-Carlton Bacara, Santa Barbara, benefited SBIFF's free, year-round educational programs and paid homage to Scorsese's long list of movie classics, from *Taxi Driver* and *Raging Bull* to his new work, *The Irishman*.

The roster of tributes during the festival—taking place January 15 through 25—has also begun to be filled in: The Virtuosos Award presented by UGG is going to a quartet of actors whose performances have recently put them in the spotlight. They include Awkwafina (*The Farewell*), Taron Egerton (*Rocketman*), Florence Pugh (*Midsommar*), and Taylor Russell (*Waves*). And for her outstanding career—most recently as the star of *Judy*—Renée Zellweger is receiving the American Riviera Award, during what promises to be another memorable celebration of the cinematic art. Sbiff.org. JOAN TAPPER

DOWNTOWN

Lutah Returns

After screening in more than 50 domestic and international film festivals, **LUTAH**, the homegrown documentary about local architect Lutah Maria Riggs, is returning to Santa Barbara. Written and directed by Kum-Kum Bhavnani, and coproduced with Leslie Sweem Bhutani and Gretchen Loeff, the film first premiered six years ago at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival. Don't miss the reprise screening at the Lutah-designed Lobero Theatre on January 5. 33 E. Canon Perdido St., Santa Barbara, 805-963-0761, lobero.org. L.D.P.



"Tatsuo Miyajima" on display from December 22 through April 5 at the **SANTA BARBARA MUSEUM OF ART**, 805-963-4364, sbma.net.

Tatsuo Miyajima's *Counter Ground*, 1998–2000, LED, electric wiring, and wooden panels.



LEFT TO RIGHT: *Lutah*; one of Riggs's architectural drawings.

