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**NEWS
RELEASE**

05/28/2025

El Paso Museum of Art Opens *PAINT: Rachelle Thiewes* Exhibit Inspired by Lowrider Autopaint

EL PASO, Texas—The El Paso Museum of Art (EPMA) is excited to welcome the public to present *PAINT: Rachelle Thiewes*, a dynamic new exhibition opening Friday, May 30.

The new exhibit highlights a body of work inspired by the vibrant colors of lowrider automotive paint often seen on lowriders throughout the Chihuahuan Desert region.

“We are thrilled to present a stunning solo exhibition by Rachelle Thiewes, an artist with deep roots in the Borderland as an artist and influential educator,” said El Paso Museum of Art Director Edward Hayes. “This focused selection of sculptural jewelry is culled from public and private collections across the nation. Come and explore these unique pieces in a presentation that is enhanced with video and interactive moments accessible to all visitors at no cost.”

The exhibition will open with a special evening reception on Friday, May 30. EPMA members are invited for a preview beginning at 5 p.m., with the event opening to the public from 6 to 8 p.m.

About the Artist

Rachelle Thiewes is a nationally and internationally recognized metalsmith whose sculptural jewelry can be found in over twenty permanent collections. Her work is displayed at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Art Institute of Chicago, the American Craft Museum, the Renwick Gallery at the Smithsonian, the Royal College of Art London, and more. Thiewes is also a celebrated educator of nearly four decades. She led the Metal Arts department at the University of Texas at El Paso, inspiring generations of artists in the Borderlands.

About the Exhibition

The art and design of Rachelle Thiewes challenges definitions within the domains of jewelry making and sculpture. Thiewes’ work is focused on making the wearer conscious of their body and incorporates kinetic elements. *PAINT* showcases vibrant colors inspired by the Chihuahuan Desert region. The jewelry on display emulates the vivid palettes of lowriders, part of an important subculture in the Borderland. Working within the realm of art and adornment, her striking pieces express innovative uses of patinas and luminosity, all while exploring the cultural specificity of paint.

PAINT: Rachelle Thiewes is organized by the El Paso Museum of Art. Support for this exhibition is provided by the Texas Commission on the Arts, the Estate of Lineaus Hooper Lorette, the Mellon Foundation, the El Paso Museum of Art Foundation, and the City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Department.

The El Paso Museum of Art is free and open to the public Wednesday through Sunday. For more information, visit www.EPMA.Art.

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