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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CAM's 2022 Gala, DIVE IN, honors Nancy and Ken Kranzberg; raises more than \$410,000 to support exhibitions and education programs**



DIVE IN Gala honorees Ken and Nancy Kranzberg (wearing a Katherine Bernhardt original) with Gala co-chair JiaMin Dierberg.

**April 29, 2022 (St. Louis, MO)**—The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) held its spring Gala at the Coronado on April 22, 2022. The first CAM Gala to be held in person since 2019, the sold-out DIVE IN celebration was all about getting back into the swim of things. Themed around a 1960s Palm Springs pool party, Chairs JiaMin and Michael Dierberg hosted an evening of joyful support for CAM and shared the great love, respect, and admiration for gala honorees Nancy and Ken Kranzberg.

DIVE IN guests were encouraged to give to help maintain CAM's dynamic range of exhibitions, public programs, educational activities, and community initiatives—art for all and all for free! They responded by **generating more than \$410,000 through ticket sales, sponsorships, and the Fund the Need auction**. The auction was the **most successful in CAM's history, raising \$150,000**.

"This Gala was indeed a night to remember," says CAM Executive Director Lisa Melandri. "It was a thrill to be back together to celebrate all that CAM is and does. We were grateful to our chairs, JiaMin and Michael Dierberg, for their incredible spirit and support. It was our great delight and privilege to be able to honor the wonderful, generous, joyful, and just plain fun Nancy and Ken Kranzberg. Talk about DIVING IN! Not just CAM, but the whole St. Louis arts and culture landscape would not be what it is today without those two sunny spirits! You could feel the love in the room from beginning to end!"

DIVE IN took its inspiration from the poolside photography of artist Martine Gutierrez, whose exhibition *HIT MOVIE: Vol. 1* is on view at the museum March 25 through July 24, 2022. The Coronado was transformed into a Palm Springs poolside getaway and guests came in an amazing array of mod fashion—from slip dresses to caftans and from go-go boots and bell bottoms to flip flops and enormous sunglasses. Attendees were treated to Dierberg Vineyards wines and an after-party that featured the swinging sounds of DJ Dave Kirkland.

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**Contemporary Art  
Museum St. Louis**

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St. Louis, MO 63108  
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The evening also featured the inauguration of an exciting new program: each annual CAM Gala will serve as the launchpad for an artist-design labeled wine from Dierberg Vineyards, with all sales benefiting CAM. The 2022 wine titled *Painter's Palette*, a limited-edition red blend from Star Lane Vineyards in California, was presented at DIVE IN. The bottle featured a stunning label by artist Katherine Bernhardt (who also named the wine), including her iconic images of toucans, bananas, and toilet paper—all of which were a part of her monumental, site-specific mural at CAM in 2017.



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In keeping with the DIVE IN theme of the celebration our sponsors included:

**Jackknife Sponsors:** Ferring Family Foundation, Nancy and Ken Kranzberg;

**Somersault Sponsor:** Clayco; **Swan Sponsors:** Alexis M. Cossé and Erik Karanik, JiaMin and Michael Dierberg, Edward Jones, Penny Pennington and Mike Fidler,

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CAM's Gala is the principal fundraiser of the year, raising nearly fifteen percent of the Museum's operating budget. DIVE IN benefits not only CAM's extraordinary exhibitions and the most relevant and innovative artists of today, but such initiatives as CAM's ArtReach program, which has expanded to include Sumner and Vashon High Schools, where CAM's Resident Teaching Artists offer the finest in studio art education. Drop In Workshops introduce art to young people through making, designed for students to complete a hands-on art project in a single classroom session. Museum tours, professional development programs for teachers, AP Portfolio for budding high school artists in search of guidance toward the college level—these are just a few of the education programs offered to the St. Louis community's youth through CAM's arts education activities.

### **About the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis**

The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis creates meaningful engagement with the most relevant and innovative art being made today. Founded by civic and cultural leaders in 1980, the Museum transformed from a small gallery into an internationally recognized arts institution, now permanently housed in a flexible, open, and inviting building designed by renowned American architect Brad Cloepfil. CAM's distinct architecture reflects the organization's values and supports a dynamic range of exhibitions, public programs, educational initiatives, and community collaborations. The only museum in the region solely dedicated to contemporary art, CAM is one of the preeminent non-collecting institutions of its kind in the United States. We are a site for discovery, a welcoming space, free and open to all. For more information, visit [camstl.org](http://camstl.org).

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