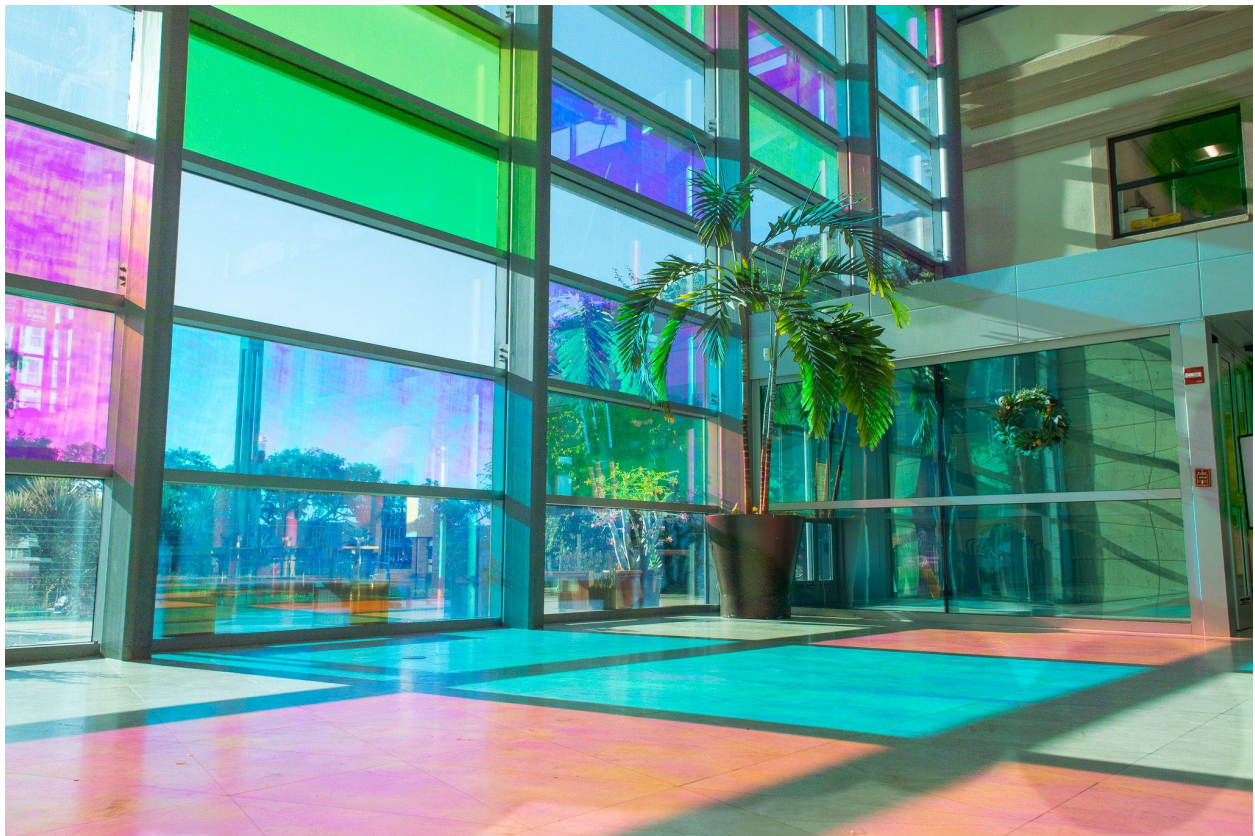


MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS ST. PETE

THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, ST. PETERSBURG (MFA) ANNOUNCES SECOND INSTALLATION OF TEMPUS VOLAT, HORA FUGIT ALONG WITH SUMMER YOGA SERIES

The installation, Part 2: Summer Solstice, will be unveiled on June 21, with a special restorative yoga session and a member-exclusive first look and artist meet and greet.



ST. PETERSBURG, FL (June 7, 2023) – The Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg (MFA), is pleased to present *Tempus volat, hora fugit*, 2023, *Part 2: Summer Solstice* by Christian Sampson. This second installation of *Tempus volat, hora fugit* brings additional color to the MFA Conservatory, as Sampson focuses not just on the wall of water-facing east windows, but grows his artwork to encompass windows on the south and west sides of the buildings, allowing for a geometric flooding of colored light from

multiple angles. The Summer Solstice marks the first astronomical day of summer in Earth's northern hemisphere. It is the longest day of the year, when the sun reaches its highest altitude. Sampson has focused on the clerestory windows on the south side of the Conservatory, drawing the eye to the top reaches of the Museum's architecture.

The title of this four-part installation series, *Tempus volat, hora fugit*, translates from Latin to "time flies, hours flee." Through the seemingly simple means of light and color, this immersive artwork addresses the passage of time, and the magnitude of our natural world. One may find themselves following rays of sunlight in ways they never have before, contemplating the very turning of the earth's axis.

The installations, presented in the MFA Conservatory, align with the astronomical calendar, with each installment corresponding to a significant celestial event. The first installation occurred on March 20, 2023, coinciding with the Vernal Equinox—the beginning of spring. Subsequent additions by the artist will take place on June 21, the Summer Solstice; September 23, the Autumn Equinox; and December 21, the Winter Solstice.

Viewers can expect to engage with the installations in a unique and profound way, as they follow the paths of sunlight and explore new perspectives. The artwork aims to evoke a sense of wonder and contemplation, encouraging observers to ponder the ever-changing nature of time and the magnificence of our natural surroundings.



The MFA also has announced a **Yoga for All** summer program that allows participants to experience *Tempus volat, hora fugit* from a unique perspective. As part of the MFA's *Picture of Health* initiative,

these yoga sessions provide MFA Members and guests the opportunity to enjoy a serene and rejuvenating morning of stretching, breathing exercises, meditation, and mindfulness. “We are thrilled to offer these yoga sessions in the beautiful MFA Conservatory, bathed in the brilliance of *Tempus volat, hora fugit*,” says Executive Director and CEO Anne-Marie Russell. “Yoga is such a natural extension of the incredible artwork of Christian Sampson. The radiant ambiance of this installation is the perfect backdrop for a restorative and enlightening yoga practice.”

Picture of Health is a multifaceted program examining various concepts of health across space and time, using the MFA collection as a point of departure. The program cultivates an integrated exploration of health—cognitive, physical, physiological, emotional, civic, intellectual and spiritual with the goal of fostering well being in the community.

Visitors can experience the second installation of Christian Sampson’s *Tempus volat, hora fugit* beginning on Wednesday, June 21, the Summer Solstice. A special Summer Solstice Yoga Session will take place on June 21 from 8:00 am–9:00 am. A Summer Solstice Member Opening with Artist Christian Sampson will be held on June 21 from 9:00 am–10:00 am.

Christian Sampson is a multimedia artist whose practice is anchored largely by philosophies related to the Light and Space movement that originated in California in the 1960s, particularly the ideas of ephemerality and optical perception. He also has an affinity for early film mediums and animation, and certainly there is a durational, cinematic quality to his work. Sampson has worked site-specifically, spending time in the MFA Conservatory to experience the changing of light that is so beautifully captured in our east-facing wall of windows that look out onto the Bay. Sampson earned his BFA from Ringling College of Art and Design, Sarasota, FL and an MFA from Hunter College, New York City, NY. His work has been exhibited throughout the United States as well as at the Centre Pompidou, Paris, France. He lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.

RELATED PROGRAMS

[Yoga for All](#)

Enjoy a serene and rejuvenating morning of stretching, breathing exercises, meditation, and mindfulness. The radiant ambiance of the *Tempus volat, hora fugit* installation serves as a captivating backdrop for a restorative and enlightening yoga practice. These yoga classes are designed to accommodate all ages and skill levels.

Thursdays, June 8, 2023–August 24, 2023

8:00 am–9:00 am

\$10 MFA Members | \$20 Not-yet Members

[Special Summer Solstice Yoga Session](#)

A special Summer Solstice Yoga Flow in celebration of the new installation of *Tempus volat, hora fugit*. Be the first to experience the second installation in Christian Sampson’s immersive art installation in the

MFA Conservatory while enjoying a restorative and reflective yoga flow.

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

8:00 am–9:00 am

\$10 MFA Members | \$20 Not-yet Members

Summer Solstice Member Opening with Artist Christian Sampson

Members can be the first to experience *Tempus volat, hora fugit, Part 2: Summer Solstice* and meet the artist Christian Sampson and Senior Curator of Contemporary Art Katherine Pill. Members will enjoy coffee and pastries as they view the brilliant work on view in the MFA Conservatory.

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

9:00 am–10:00 am

Free for MFA Members

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ABOUT THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

The Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg (MFA) has an encyclopedic collection of art from around the globe and across the centuries, with almost 5,000 years of civilization represented in thousands of objects extending from antiquity to the present. The collection includes works by Georgia O’Keeffe, Claude Monet, Berthe Morisot, Auguste Rodin, Kehinde Wiley, Jacob Lawrence, and many others, as well as ancient Greek and Roman, Asian, African, Art of the Americas and Native American art. The Museum’s photographic collection is one of the largest and most well-respected in the Southeast. The museum’s rotating exhibition galleries feature a diverse selection of temporary exhibitions from all over the world, as well as exhibitions curated from the museum’s extensive collection. In addition to its robust exhibition program, the MFA engages the community through exciting public programs and events and serves students through youth programs and a partnership with the Pinellas County School System.

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IMAGES (from top to bottom, left to right)

Christian Sampson (American, b. 1974), *Tempus volat, hora fugit, 2023, Part 1: Vernal Equinox*, Dichroic and vinyl film on glass

Yoga for All in the MFA Conservatory