

Ephemeral Acts

October 31, 2025 – May 16, 2026

Art Vault – 540 S. Guadalupe Street, Santa Fe

Drawn from the Carl and Marilynn Thoma Foundation collection, *Ephemeral Acts* explores the transient nature of time-based art and technology, where time serves as both medium and composer. This selection of works is unified by a temporal state driven by various catalysts—from algorithms and choreography to dramaturgy, game engines, interactivity, and instruments. Each artwork unfolds a unique interpretation of a fleeting “real-time,” inviting viewers to consider the notion of ephemerality not only in art, but in life. All works exist fundamentally only in their moment of execution, resisting permanence yet leaving a lasting imprint through memory, legacy, and the creative act.

Curated by Kathleen Forde, the Foundation’s Director and Curator of Media Arts, this exhibition also underscores our commitment to collecting, preserving, and sharing both the history and contemporary landscape of media art in depth. Each artist featured in *Ephemeral Acts* has more than one work in the collection’s holdings, demonstrating the Foundation’s priority to collect throughout an artist’s career. The work on view spans 1970-2025, highlighting our strategic dedication to a stewardship of the field from its inception to the present.

Artists featured in this exhibition include Laurie Anderson, Dara Birnbaum, Nick Cave, Analivia Cordeiro, R. Luke DuBois, John Gerrard, Ragnar Kjartansson, Casey Reas, Steina, Woody Vasulka, and Bill Viola.

Our public opening will take place on Friday, October 31, 2025, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

ABOUT THE THOMA FOUNDATION

The Carl & Marilynn Thoma Foundation was founded on the knowledge that access to the arts and education enhances lives and communities. The foundation makes art collection-related grants to institutions and individuals and lends and exhibits its collection to museums and galleries worldwide.

The Foundation focuses its education funding on the rural Southwest United States, offering scholarship opportunities to students in the greater Texas Panhandle and surrounding areas. Through its giving programs, the Thoma Foundation strives to foster leadership, innovation, and equal opportunity.

Art Vault hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Also on view at our Cedar Springs Headquarters and Exhibition Space in Dallas, Texas, is

Deconstructing Landscape, featuring work by artists from each area of the Foundation's collection, including Refik Anadol, Richard Anuszkiewicz, Judy Chicago, Dan Flavin, Ragnar Kjartansson, Rafael Lozano-Hemmer, Ellsworth Kelly, Kazuyoshi Matsuzawa, Bruce Nauman, Georgia O'Keeffe, David Benjamin Sherry, teamLab, Leo Villareal, and Manuel Zambrano, among others.

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