

Ballroom Marfa The First Twenty Years

By Virginia Lebermann and Fairfax Dorn, with Vance Knowles

A vibrant account of Ballroom Marfa's groundbreaking first two decades of art and music

Since its founding in 2003, Ballroom Marfa, the internationally recognized, critically hailed contemporary art museum has been an outsized advocate for visionary artistic expression. Located in Marfa—a remote, West Texas town of fewer than 2,000 inhabitants best known as the adopted home of artist Donald Judd—Ballroom has become a global art destination in its own right. Celebrating two decades of art and music, ***Ballroom Marfa: The First Twenty Years*** tells the story of this extraordinary art destination through lively essays and firsthand accounts by internationally celebrated artists and performers.

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Heavily illustrated, ***Ballroom Marfa: The First Twenty Years*** features over 250 images documenting more than 50 defining highlights from its history. Highlights include a debut exhibition featuring the world-renowned artist Takashi Murakami and Elmgreen & Dragset's now-iconic *Prada Marfa* installation, live performances by Sonic Youth and shock-master John Waters, and large-scale commissions from Agnes Denes and Haroon Mirza.

Organized chronologically into five chapters that each tackle several years of programming, the book includes incredible contributions from artists, musicians, curators, and the surrounding community through interviews, essays, and reflections. Featured creatives include Terry Allen, Mel Chin, Agnes Denes, rafa esparza, Loie Hollowell, Leo Villareal, Adam Pendleton, Elmgreen & Dragset, Hubbard/Birchler, and Graham Reynolds, among many others. Three special tipped-in zine inserts called the 'Ballroom Beat' add an original element to the publication, capturing the essence of Ballroom's most exciting musical performances and events by musicians such as Sonic Youth, Yacht, Dev Hynes, Mary Lattimore, Lyle Lovett, and Lonnie Holley. Also featured is an incredible collection of archival posters from the impressive music program.

A collectible object in its own right, ***Ballroom Marfa: The First Twenty Years*** is a kaleidoscopic compendium of highlights from its first two decades as told by the impassioned artists, musicians, curators, and community. This publication underlines how Ballroom's impact has reverberated far beyond the desert, and is a must-have for fans of the iconic museum and lovers of contemporary art and music.

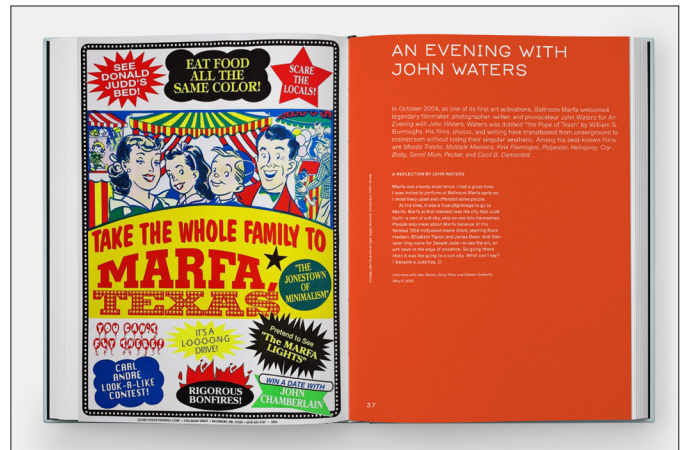
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Ballroom Marfa: The First Twenty Years



About the Authors

Ballroom Marfa was founded in 2003 in Marfa, a remote town of fewer than 2,000 inhabitants, to offer the public art across all mediums—from installations to performances, music, film, and dance. Since then, Ballroom has evolved to become not only an internationally recognized, critically hailed art museum, but also a landmark global destination.

Fairfax Dorn is the cofounder of Ballroom Marfa.

Virginia Lebermann is the cofounder of Ballroom Marfa.

Vance Knowles was the first music director of Ballroom Marfa.

About Monacelli

As a leading publisher of illustrated books for more than twenty-five years, **Monacelli** has challenged the conventions of publishing to produce provocative, inspiring, and essential titles. Founded in 1994 by Gianfranco Monacelli, the organization has released nearly 600 books on architecture, art, interior design, landscape and gardens, photography, and the applied arts. Monacelli's books have been made in collaboration with prominent practitioners and scholars ever since its inaugural title, the groundbreaking *S,M,L,XL* by Rem Koolhaas and Bruce Mau. In 2015, the applied arts imprint Monacelli Studio was launched, adding elevated books on art instruction, photography technique, and crafts to the publisher's roster. In 2020, Monacelli joined the Phaidon family of companies.

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