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Storyteller Antonio Rocha performing live at Mesa Arts Center February 12



Mesa, AZ – Unique, imaginative, and internationally acclaimed storyteller Antonio Rocha will give two performances – one for students and one for the general public) on Friday, February 12, in celebration of the 10th year of storytelling at Mesa Arts Center. Performances will take place in the Piper Theater. Tickets for the 7:30 p.m. performance are available through the Mesa Arts Center Box Office at MesaArtsCenter.com or by calling 480-644-6500.

Antonio's is a world of mime, sound effects, zany characters and physical comedy. Rocha has studied with mime master Tony Montanaro and master Marcel Marceau. "Rocha not only plays his characters, he seems to be possessed by them..."-Lisa Gauthier, *NUVO News*, Indianapolis.

Rocha's student performance for students in grades 3 through 8 as part of Mesa Arts Center's Engagement Programs, and in partnership with South Mountain Storytelling Institute, will illustrate life lessons from different paths and phases of life. The student show will be complimented by two additional tellers; a youth teller and an Arizona teller.

Rocha's one-of-a-kind solo shows of stories and mime have been performed from Singapore to Hawaii and many places in between including 16 countries on six continents. Some of the venues include The Singapore Festival of the Arts, Wolf Trap, The National Storytelling Festival, The Kennedy Center, The Smithsonian Institution, The Tales of Graz in Austria, Dunya Festival in Holland as well as many other Storytelling Festivals and educational institutions around The USA.

Tickets to the evening performance are \$22. Mesa Arts Center is located at One East Main Street in downtown Mesa.

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About Mesa Arts Center

Mesa Arts Center, owned and operated by the City of Mesa, is a unique, architecturally stunning facility located in the heart of downtown Mesa. Arizona's largest multidisciplinary arts center is

home to four theaters, five art galleries in the MCA Museum, and 14 art studios. Guests, patrons, and students come to Mesa Arts Center to enjoy the finest live entertainment, performances and festivals, world-class visual art exhibitions, and outstanding arts education classes. The Mesa Arts Center mission is to inspire people through engaging arts experiences that are diverse, accessible, and relevant. For more information, visit <u>mesaartscenter.com</u>.