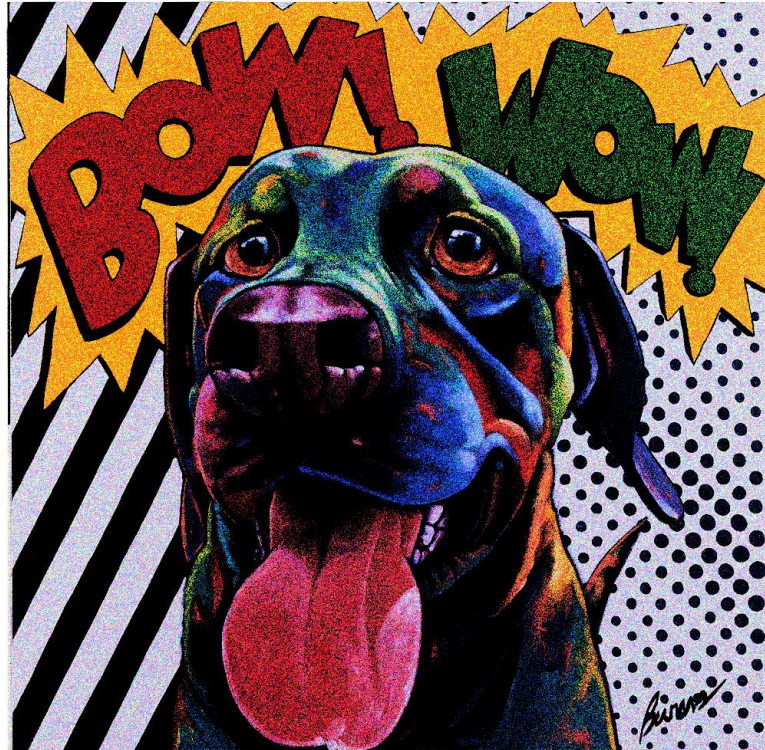


'BowWOW!: Dogs in Art' Exhibition Opens Arizona Museum for Youth in Mesa



'Sirius' by Ron Burns memorializes the explosive-detection dog who lost his life in the Sept. 11 World Trade Center attacks. Photo (c) Ron Burns

NEML STAFF

Cats, take some catnip and take cover.

The new Arizona Museum for Youth opens Nov. 22 at 35 N. Robson (First and Robson streets) in downtown Mesa with "BowWOW!: Dogs in Art." The \$3.2 million, 30,550-square-foot building was designed by BPLW Architects and Engineers of Mesa.

Running through May 21, the exhibition includes depictions of dogs in clothes, "Dapper Dogs," (with works by William Wegman and Robert Brubaker) to those pups of the periphery of dog society, the "Divergent Dogs" (with works by Harry Fonesca and Esmerelda DeLaney.) More than 40 works by 32 artists will be featured in this exhibition.

Upon entering the exhibition, visitors will be greeted by a giant doghouse and will find 3-foot-tall, 3-D dogs with big eyes such as Esmerelda DeLaney's Ramzi to Sam Mindrum-Logan's playful park scenes ("Dog Kisses" and "Dog Breath").

The "Ditto Dog" section of the exhibition explores the realistic portrayal of canines with works by Joe Baker and etchings by Walter Bohl. Families will also be able to view a series of portraits of dog heroes. Included in this area is Ron Burns' portrait, "Sirius" — an explosive-detection dog who lost his life in the Sept. 11 World Trade Center attacks.

For more information, please call 480-644-2467, or www.arizonamuseumforyouth.com.