

# Artist Marlene Yu to celebrate her 80th with gala

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(Photo: Stephanie Lusk/Special to the Times)

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When guests dine at [Marlene Yu's](#) 80th birthday gala, they will bite down on pieces of art.

So not only are the dishes in the multiple course dinner inspired by Taiwanese art, but each dish is a piece of art, explained Yu's daughter and museum director Stephanie Lusk.

**More:** [The healing power of art in medicine](#)

Marlene Yu's 80th Birthday Gala is 6-9 p.m. Sept. 30 at the Marlene Yu Museum, 710 Travis St. The event benefits the Marlene Yu Museum. Admission: \$125 for individual tickets.

Yu is known for her abstract expressions of nature in large-scale paintings, said Lusk.

Chef [Anthony Felan](#), of Wine Country Bistro and 2nd Act Supper Club, is featured as the culinary artist. He is preparing a dinner drawing inspiration from Yu's work, said Lusk.

Joel Matlock stretches in his backyard after training.



Chef Anthony Felan's oyster dish presented on marble and pink stones inspired by Marlene Yu's Pink Marble paintings.

Succulent, raw oysters will be bedded under a blanket of seaweed and bathed in colorful wasabi tobiko.

The dish is to be served with sour yuzu mignonette sauce, atop pink and marbled rocks inspired by Yu's art.

Gala tickets are available at <http://www.marleneyumuseum.org/gala/> and (318) 717-9111, and include full open bar, 6-course dinner, and entertainment. Proceeds benefit the Marlene Yu Museum. RSVP by September 16 for two free raffle tickets.

About Joel Matlock:

Joel Matlock began martial arts training at approximately five years old, beginning with karate. He was introduced to taekwondo and kung fu in his teenage years. Matlock's love of parkour developed at the age of 10 when he watched the World Parkour Championship for the first time. The next day he started his long journey into the world of parkour. His ambition with All Angles Martial Arts is to create a style that is diverse and perpetually changing, drawing from parkour's adaptive and reactive nature and combining it with his martial arts foundation. Matlock's goal is to one day make a living from his talents and be like Bruce Lee.

About Anthony Felan:

Chef Anthony Felan is a graduate of Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts in San Francisco, and returned with his wife and son to their Northwest Louisianan roots for family and in 2010 as Sous Chef at Wine Country Bistro, where he quickly moved up to Executive Chef. He recently made a long-time dream a reality by creating the underground 2nd Act Supper Club as his side project. Members commit to dinner without knowing the location or menu beforehand, encouraging them to try new foods and be in the company of new people who share their passion for creative food in historically significant buildings.

About Marlene Yu:

Marlene Tseng Yu is a world-renowned abstract expressionist of nature in large-scale paintings and a pioneer in the environmental green movement in art. As of April 2016, she has had 80 solo exhibitions in the United States, Europe, and the Far East, and her art has been reviewed in 9 languages in more than 200 publications, by numerous art magazines, newspapers, TV, and radio shows, such as ARTFORUM, Art in America, Art News, World Journal, and Barbara Walters' Today Show. To find other artists who share their love of nature through art, she founded the Rainforest Art Foundation, which is headquartered in Shreveport, and has branches in New York City, Zurich, and soon Frankfurt. While Marlene's paintings are included in over 1000 public and private collections, the recent establishment of her own museum in Shreveport, Louisiana, the Marlene Yu Museum, showcases the historical relevance of her life's work and over 4000 paintings across 35-plus series. She is able to do commission work according to requirements of architectural projects as large as 54 feet.

## **CYR WHEEL ACROBAT FRANK CHAPMAN TO PERFORM AT MARLENE YU'S 80TH BIRTHDAY GALA**

September 13, 2017



Click for a video of Chapman's Cyr wheel skills!

SHREVEPORT, Louisiana – Cyr wheel acrobat Frank Chapman with Spinner Entertainment is preparing a special choreography for Marlene Yu's 80th Birthday Gala at Marlene Yu Museum on Saturday, September 30, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. to benefit the Marlene Yu Museum at 710 Travis Street, Shreveport, Louisiana 71101. Chapman's strength and confidence in the air have earned him the nickname “Spider-Man” among other acrobatic enthusiasts. With a background in the Marines and training alongside the best of Cirque du Soleil in Los Angeles, Chapman gives an illusion of weightlessness that reflects his aerial talents.

Ticket info can be found at <http://www.marleneyumuseum.org/gala/>.

About Frank Chapman:

Frank Chapman is a Texas transplant, Marine circa 2008, and visual and performing artist who has spent years training with the best of Cirque du Soleil in Los Angeles, California. After moving to Texas, Frank began to train in other aerial arts, including but not limited to Cyr wheel acrobatics, hand balancing, aerial hoop, and traveling gymnastics rings. In 2017, Chapman competed in the San Antonio City Qualifiers of the obstacle course competition series *American Ninja Warrior*.

About Spinner Entertainment:

Spinner Entertainment, LLC is the newest talent agency in the Shreveport-Bossier City community. It connects clients with a wide variety of local, regional, and national entertainers and variety performers. The talented performers affiliated with Spinner Entertainment include: jugglers, stilt walkers, fire spinners, dancers, circus performers, magicians, costumed characters, and more.

As an insured limited liability company, Spinner Entertainment, LLC has booked entertainers for many festivals and events in the Ark-La-Tex including Mudbug Madness, Red River Revel, Townsquare Media events, SRAC, SPAR, and various other corporate style events.

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**[PORT BELLY PROJECT TO PERFORM AT MARLENE YU'S 80TH BIRTHDAY GALA AT MARLENE YU MUSEUM](#)**

September 13, 2017

SHREVEPORT, Louisiana – Port Belly Project will do a veil dance for unveiling of Marlene Yu's Pink Marble Paintings as well as sword-balancing at Marlene Yu's 80th Birthday Gala at Marlene Yu Museum on Saturday, September 30, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. to benefit the Marlene Yu Museum at 710 Travis Street, Shreveport, Louisiana 71101. Port Belly Project draws from dance forms that are tribal in nature and from different regions of the world. These forms are fused with modern dance traditions to create a dance form that honors both the old and the new. Port Belly Project's improvisational dance style creates a truly unique dance as each member of the troupe takes a turn as a leader of the group, giving cues to the other dancers who follow suit. Once the music stops, the audience has witnessed a completely one-of-a-kind dance, never to be repeated.

Ticket info can be found at <http://www.marleneyumuseum.org/gala/>.



About Port Belly Project:

Port Belly Project was founded in Shreveport in 2005 and remains the original tribal fusion, improvisational style, Bhangra and Bollywood dance troupe in Northwest Louisiana. Port Belly Project was formed to provide dance instruction and performance opportunities as well as to educate the public about these beautiful and traditional dance forms.

## **CHEF ANTHONY FELAN PREPARES FOR MARLENE YU'S 80TH BIRTHDAY GALA**

September 13, 2017



SHREVEPORT, Louisiana – Chef Anthony Felan of Wine Country Bistro and 2nd Act Supper Club is preparing dinner for Marlene Yu's 80th Birthday Gala on Saturday, September 30, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The event benefits the Marlene Yu Museum at 710 Travis Street, Shreveport, Louisiana 71101. Sponsorship and tickets will be available on August 1, 2017.

Felan's passion for farm-to-table and from-scratch cooking is evident in his close work with several local farms, including Mahaffey Farms, Smith Family Farms, Shady Grove Ranch, Doodley Dee's Farm, Flowing Hills Creamery, and Haute Goat Creamery. His cuisine for the milestone dinner will channel this passion and draw inspiration from Marlene Yu's work.

Being featured as the culinary artist for Marlene Yu's 80th Birthday Gala marks the most recent in an upward trajectory of Felan's successes. In 2015, he was nominated for the "Best Chefs of Louisiana" by the American Culinary Federation New Orleans, and was voted by Shreveport as "Best Chef of NWLA" in 2016. In June 2017, he was first runner up in the statewide "Louisiana Seafood Cookoff" in Lafayette. Felan has also been involved in Slow Food Louisiana's urban youth gardens and special dinners celebrating regional heirloom and historically relevant foods.

About Anthony Felan:

Chef Anthony Felan is a graduate of Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts in San Francisco, and returned with his wife and son to their Northwest Louisianan roots for family and in 2010 as Sous Chef at

Wine Country Bistro, where he quickly moved up to Executive Chef. He recently made a long-time dream a reality by creating the underground 2nd Act Supper Club as his side project. Members commit to dinner without knowing the location or menu beforehand, encouraging them to try new foods and be in the company of new people who share their passion for creative food in historically significant buildings.

## **INDIVIDUAL TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE, MENU THEME AND ENTERTAINMENT ANNOUNCED FOR MARLENE YU'S 80TH BIRTHDAY GALA**

September 5, 2017

Tickets are now available at \$125 for Marlene Yu's 80th Birthday Gala on Saturday, September 30, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sales will benefit the Marlene Yu Museum at 710 Travis Street, Shreveport, Louisiana 71101. Individuals planning on attending should RSVP to (318) 717-9111 or [www.MarleneYuMuseum.org](http://www.MarleneYuMuseum.org) by September 27. Those who RSVP by September 16 will receive 2 free raffle tickets.

The evening gala features a themed dinner by Chef Anthony Felan, Cyr wheel acrobatics and fire poi spinning by Spinner Entertainment, sword-balancing tribal bellydancers of Port Belly Project, the debut of a local parkour jumper from All Angles Martial Arts, full open bar, raffle and door prizes.

Director Stephanie Lusk says, "Experience the culinary artistry of Chef Anthony Felan's multi-course feast for the eyes and palate with Marlene Yu's new 20-by-40-foot masterpiece and large works."

Chef Anthony Felan adds, "To celebrate Marlene Yu, we will merge Southern food with Taiwanese food, highlight all of her exhibits from Forces of Nature to Elements of Life, step outside of our regular restaurant settings, and bring it all to life on a plate to showcase the art, the food, and the whole background of Marlene Yu for one night: her 80th birthday."



Marlene Tseng Yu with (16-1, 2, 3, 4) "Pink Marble in Hot Spring I, II, III, IV" 2016, Canyon & Red Rock Series, acrylic on canvas, quadriptych, 20 x 40 feet, 610 x 1220 cm.

## MARLENE YU'S 80TH BIRTHDAY GALA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2017, 6-9PM

710 TRAVIS STREET, SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA 71101

UNVEILING MARLENE YU'S NEW, HUGE, PINK MARBLE PAINTINGS  
PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE MARLENE YU MUSEUM



Experience the culinary artistry of **Chef Anthony Felan's** multi-course feast for the eyes and palate with Marlene Yu's new 20-by-40-foot masterpiece and large works: "To celebrate Marlene Yu, we will merge Southern food with Taiwanese food, highlight all of her exhibits from *Forces of Nature* to *Elements of Life*, step outside of our regular restaurant settings, and bring it all to life on a plate to showcase the art, the food, and the whole background of Marlene Yu for one night: her 80th birthday."

The evening gala features Cyr wheel acrobatics and fire poi spinning by **Spinner Entertainment**, sword-balancing tribal bellydancers of **Port Belly Project**, the debut of a local parkour jumper from **All Angles Martial Arts**, and other spectacular acts in an elegant, inspirational atmosphere.

- full open bar •
- door prizes •

TICKETS \$125  
RSVP BY SEPT 27

- rsvp by sept 16 for 2 free raffle tickets •

(318) 717-9111 OR WWW.MARLENEYUMUSEUM.ORG

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## 1 Like [MARLENE YU'S 80TH BIRTHDAY GALA AND PINK MARBLE UNVEILING AT MARLENE YU MUSEUM](#)

July 14, 2017

SHREVEPORT, Louisiana – Marlene Yu's 80th Birthday Gala will be on Saturday, September 30, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. to benefit the Marlene Yu Museum at 710 Travis Street, Shreveport, Louisiana 71101. Food and entertainment will be provided. Sponsorship and tickets will be available on August 1, 2017.





Marlene Tseng Yu with (10-1, 2, 3, 4) "Pink Marble in Hot Spring I, II, III, IV" 2016, Canyon & Red Rock Series, acrylic on canvas, quadriptych, 20 x 40 feet, 610 x 1220 cm.

Marlene Yu with "Pink Marble in Hot Spring I, II, III, IV" 2016, Canyon and Red Rock Series, acrylic on canvas, quadriptych 20 x 40 feet, 610 x 1220 cm.

About Marlene Yu Museum:

Marlene Yu Museum is a 501(c)3 nonprofit with the mission to preserve, present, document, and interpret the life and art works of Marlene Tseng Yu. For more information, visit [www.MarleneYuMuseum.org](http://www.MarleneYuMuseum.org).

## **FREE LUNCH AND FREE ADMISSION TO THE PUBLIC ON GIVE FOR GOOD DAY IN DOWNTOWN SHREVEPORT AT LOCAL MUSEUM**

April 27, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SHREVEPORT, La., April 27, 2016 – The Marlene Yu Museum is offering a free lunch to the public as a part of Give for Good 2016. The event will be on May 3, 2016 from 11:30 am – 2:30 pm at 710 Travis Street, Shreveport, LA 71101. Door prizes will be given out each half hour and donation stations will be available throughout the event. Featured food includes New Zealand mussels, cocktail shrimp, purple rice with edamame, pork dumplings, Chinese sausage, curry chicken, and veggies.

All proceeds raised during the Give for Good event will benefit the Museum's 1UP Fundraiser taking place through the end of May. Funds raised through 1UP will go towards the renovation of the stairs and second floor of the Museum where more of Yu's work will be permanently displayed, as well as make the Museum more accessible on local, regional, and international levels.

Give for Good is a 24-hour online giving challenge led by The Community Foundation of North Louisiana to raise unrestricted dollars for the nonprofits in our community. It is a day of giving to celebrate the nonprofits in the community and a chance to raise thousands of dollars to make the community even better.

About the Marlene Yu Museum:

The Marlene Yu Museum is a 501c3 non profit with the mission to preserve, present, document, and interpret the life and art works of Marlene Tseng Yu. "Water – Element of Life" is currently showing in the Museum. The Museum is located at 710 Travis Street, Shreveport, LA 71101. For more information and hours please visit [www.marleneyumuseum.org](http://www.marleneyumuseum.org) or call (318) 717-9111.

## **MYFASHION BY MARLENE YU - A NEW FASHION LINE AVAILABLE AT THE MUSEUM**

December 21, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Marlene Yu Fashion debuts at Shreveport Museum

SHREVEPORT, La., December 15, 2015 – The Marlene Yu Museum will present the Marlene Yu Fashion line featuring selected Marlene Tseng Yu paintings at their Thursday, January 21, 2016, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Preview Gala to celebrate the Museum's one-year anniversary alongside the "Water - Element of Life" exhibit. The line will include dresses, scarves, neckties, and bow ties with various nature themes.

Depending on availability, customers may place their orders in advance to receive them in time to wear to the Preview Gala. Early bird tickets are \$125 (\$150 at the door).

A first look of part of the fashion line will be presented at the "Cosmic Cowgirls" Fashion Show to be held at the Museum on December 18, 2015 at 5:00 p.m., with 5:30 p.m. show time and reception to follow. The show features cosmic inspired designs from By Ann Collections. The event is free with suggested \$10 donation to the Museum.

Introductory prices for the designs are as follows:

Martini Dress (XS, S, M, L, XL) \$149.95

Flare Dress (XS, S, M, L, XL) \$99.95

Necktie \$49.95 (Set of 3 for \$134.95)

Scarf \$49.95

Bow Tie \$59.95

For more information about the Marlene Yu fashion line or to place an order please call [\(318\) 717-9111](tel:3187179111) or email [MarleneYuMuseum@gmail.com](mailto:MarleneYuMuseum@gmail.com).

The Marlene Yu Museum is a 501(c)3 non profit organization with the mission to preserve, present, document, and interpret the life and works of Marlene Tseng Yu. For more information visit [www.MarleneYuMuseum.org](http://www.MarleneYuMuseum.org).

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**CORAL REEF INSPIRED PAINTINGS BY  
MARLENE TSENG YU TO SHOW IN BOSSIER AS  
THE LAST EXHIBITION IN THE LUCKY SEVENS  
EXHIBITION SERIES**

June 10, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The celebrated New York artist presented six series prior in the hometown of her brand new museum, the Marlene Yu Museum, to show her art in the South for the first time



BOSSIER CITY, La., June 11, 2015—Marlene Tseng Yu presents *Crystal Reef Series* as the final exhibition of the Lucky Sevens at Bossier Arts Council from June 11 through July 31, 2015. There will be a reception at the Bossier Arts Council Saturday, June 13, 2015, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Lucky Sevens is seven different shows at seven local venues in honor of Yu's 77th year. The prior six shows were at Louisiana State Exhibit Museum, Robinson Film Center, Artspace, Meadows Museum of Art at Centenary College, Sci-Port: Louisiana's Science Center, and Marlene Yu Museum.

New York art critic, Donald Kuspit, Ph.D., wrote about the *Crystal Reef Series* in his essay, "Marlene Yu: Cosmic Inscape". Kuspit states, "The fractal process of chaos that informs nature becomes self-evident. One element explodes into another, the entire process studied, with relentless curiosity, in picture after picture, the whole series forming a kind of scientific record of an experiment with raw natural matter as well as a seismographic tracing of a profound emotional experience."

The Marlene Yu Museum is a 501(c)3 non-profit with a mission to preserve, present, document, and interpret the life and art works of Marlene Tseng Yu. For more information visit [www.MarleneYuMuseum.org](http://www.MarleneYuMuseum.org). The Rainforest Art Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit with a mission to increase appreciation of nature through art. For more information visit [www.RainforestArtFoundation.org](http://www.RainforestArtFoundation.org).

The Bossier Arts Council is dedicated to promoting, supporting, and providing cultural events and programming in order to enhance the quality of life and to develop a cultural identity for Bossier Parish. BAC is located at 630 Barksdale Blvd, Bossier City, LA and is open Tuesday-Friday 11 am-5 pm with free admission.

## ENVIRONMENTAL ARTS PIONEER MARLENE TSENG YU UNVEILS MELTING GLACIER INSPIRED SERIES AT SCI-PORT: LOUISIANA'S SCIENCE CENTER

April 13, 2015

*Special public programming will be provided as well in honor of National Environmental Education Week and Earth Day.*

**SHREVEPORT, La., March 17, 2015** – The sixth exhibition of Marlene Tseng Yu's Lucky Sevens opened March 17 at Sci-Port: Louisiana's Science Center in Shreveport. *Melting Glacier Series* will show through April 26, accompanied by several educational and thematic programs in honor of National Environmental Education Week on April 25 and 26 at Sci-Port, and an Earth Day celebration on April 22 at nearby Rainforest Art Foundation.

The Lucky Sevens is a series of seven different exhibitions at seven local venues in honor of Yu's 77th year. Yu, a native of Taiwan and participant in the New York City art scene for much of her life, founded the Rainforest Art Foundation to raise environmental awareness through art. She is now honored by the Marlene Yu Museum in downtown Shreveport, one of the few museums in the nation dedicated to preserving and presenting the work of a single artist.

Yu states, "[Glacial melting] is my favorite subject. Without my realizing it, the series reflects what has become one of the most important issues today, as human lifestyles and habits increase global warming and cause glaciers to melt rapidly. I hope through my art to convey the urgent message—Earth is in danger, please let us protect it together." Yu began the *Melting Glacier Series* in 1965 and continued through 2008.

The first five exhibitions in the Lucky Sevens took place at the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum, Robinson Film Center, Artspace, Meadows Museum of Art, and the Marlene Yu Museum. The *Dream Series* currently at the Meadows Museum shows through May 3, and *Forces of Nature* currently at the Marlene Yu Museum shows through May 31.

Art critic Robert Morgan, Ph.D., said of the series, "...a resilient flow of energy that is boundless and yet miraculously controlled... like good theater where the presence of the director remains unknown..."

During its time at Sci-Port, Lucky Sevens will be celebrated with special public programming provided at the Shreveport science museum, along with related items available in the Discoveries Unlimited Gift Shop. Programs will feature arctic mammal ecology (Blubber Mitts), the science of glaciers (Glacier Gloop), and the importance of keeping pollution out of our watersheds (What's My Watershed?).

Sci-Port Programs and Education Grants Manager Dr. Heather Kleiner says of the partnership, "Sci-Port always tries to provide our visitors with a comprehensive learning experience. We're excited to be able to match Marlene Yu's Lucky Sevens art exhibit with hands-on programming and also the showings of the IMAX® movies *To the Arctic* and *Journey to the South Pacific*."

The Earth Day celebration at RAF will take place April 22 from 4:30-7:30 pm with free admission with suggested \$10 donation. At 5:30 pm, Bayou to Bay will give a presentation. Live music by Twang Darkly, and complimentary refreshments as well as food for purchase will be available by culinary artists such as Simply Cotton Candy.

**Sci-Port: Louisiana's Science Center** is a 92,000 square-foot science and entertainment center featuring 290 hands-on exhibits, 70 interactive programs and demonstrations, a Space Center and Space Dome Planetarium, IMAX Dome Theatre, gift shop and café. Bayou to Bay (B2B) is a program of Sci-Port with a mission to improve the health of children and waterways through education, action, and play.

**The Marlene Yu Museum** is a 501c3 non-profit with a mission to preserve, exhibit, document, and interpret the life and works of Marlene Tseng Yu. For more information visit [www.MarleneYuMuseum.org](http://www.MarleneYuMuseum.org). The Rainforest Art Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit with a mission to increase appreciation of nature through art. For more information visit [www.RainforestArtFoundation.org](http://www.RainforestArtFoundation.org).