

Art Seen Heard

Summer 2025

An ekphrasis song challenge and performance by Flagstaff Songwriters Circle.

Produced by AH Creative, LLC

Flagstaff songwriters are invited to participate in a songwriting challenge that draws inspiration from the visual arts. *See reverse for explanation of ekphrasis.*

Exhibition

ROUTE 66: ALTERNATIVE PERSPECTIVES

June 28 – September 27, 2025 in the Main Gallery, Coconino Center for the Arts (CCA)

Coconino Center for the Arts is proud to launch the U.S. Route 66 Centennial Celebration with Route 66: Alternative Perspectives. A decidedly non-nostalgic and creatively interpretive photo-documentary of life along the Mother Road, the exhibition features Edward Keating's MAIN STREET: THE LOST DREAM OF ROUTE 66 and Wes Pope's POP 66, along with Shades of Route 66: Celebrating Diversity along Historic Route 66. See website for more details of exhibition - coconinoarts.org.

Songwriter's Challenge

1. View the exhibition to draw inspiration for a song! Write draft of a song. **June 28th - August 20**
2. Bring draft of song to Circle for feedback/comments. **Wednesdays, July 16 and August 20**
3. Performance in the gallery at CCA: **Thursday, August 21, 6pm to 7pm**

ek·phra·sis

/ˈekfrəsəs/

Ekphrasis is the description of one piece of art via another. Choose a painting, photograph, sculpture, film, or even another piece of music, and describe it in prose language that can then be mined for lyrical imagery, direction, content, or inspiration.

As you begin to write your ekphrastic poem/prose/lyric, consider the following approaches:

- Write about the scene or subject being depicted in the artwork.
- Write in the voice of a person or object shown in the work of art.
- Write about your experience of looking at the art.
- Relate the work of art to something else it reminds you of.
- Imagine what was happening while the artist was creating the piece.
- Write in the voice of the artist.
- Write a dialogue among characters in a work of art.
- Speak directly to the artist or the subject(s) of the piece.
- Write in the voice of an object or person portrayed in the artwork.
- Imagine a story behind what you see depicted in the piece.
- Speculate about why the artist created this work.