2013 LATINO ART NOW!

Nuestra América
Expanding Perspectives in American Art

NOV. 7-9
Washington, DC

latino.si.edu/LatinoArtNow/
Dear Colleagues:

The Inter-University Program for Latino Research headquartered at the University of Illinois at Chicago in collaboration with the Smithsonian Latino Center and the Smithsonian American Art Museum are pleased to welcome you to the Fourth Biennial Latino Art Now! Conference Nuestra América: Expanding Perspectives in American Art.

Since 2005, the Latino Art Now! Conference has been examining the contemporary state of Latino art in the United States, its contours and the cultural forces that shape it while exploring its relationship to contemporary American visual culture and art.

In its present edition, the conference considers the unprecedented and significant growth in the field of Latino art in the United States. New national exhibitions, expansion of public and private collections, publications, research projects and digital archival initiatives combined with a desire for a larger national museum infrastructure are positing this current moment as one of an expanding American art. It seeks to answer questions: To what extent are these developments and activities contributing to a wider, more comprehensive, global American art? Can we clearly discern a Latinidad in American art in theoretical and methodological approaches? How is Latino art currently presented in mainstream and culturally specific museums? With continuing demographic changes, how are emerging communities of Latino artists and art collectives shaping the current moment? In established communities, how is their pre-1960 production being re-assessed? What can be said about current trends and future directions? In other words, what is Latino Art Now?

The conference is comprised of two plenary sessions, a keynote address and nine sessions. Coinciding with the national showing of the exhibition Our America: The Latino Presence in American Art, we cordially extend an invitation to you to visit the exhibition at the Smithsonian American Art Museum during the conference. Drawn entirely from the Smithsonian American Art Museum’s permanent collection, Our America presents the rich and varied contributions of Latino artists in the United States since the mid-twentieth century, when the concept of a collective Latino identity began to emerge.

We would like to acknowledge and express our most sincere appreciation for the work of the Latino Art Now! Planning and Conference Committees. We thank the IUPLR staff both at the previous headquarters at the University of Notre Dame and at the new headquarters at the University of Illinois at Chicago as well as the staff of the Smithsonian Latino Center and the Smithsonian American Art Museum for their outstanding work and contributions in making this conference possible.

We hope you enjoy your time in Washington, DC and thank you for your participation in the Fourth Biennial Latino Art Now! Conference Nuestra América: Expanding Perspectives in American Art.
E. Carmen Ramos is curator for Latino art at the Smithsonian American Art Museum. Since 2010, she has worked to expand the Museum’s pioneering collection of Latino art with an eye toward capturing the broad aesthetic and regional range of the field. She received her BA from New York University, and her MA and PhD degrees in art history from the University of Chicago. Prior to joining the Smithsonian, Ramos was Assistant Curator for Cultural Engagement at the Newark Museum in Newark, New Jersey and an independent curator. She co-curated the fifth biennial at El Museo del Barrio in New York City in 2007 and has organized exhibitions at Newark and elsewhere about Mexican popular arts (2007), Latino artists and migration (2003), and solo exhibitions and public art projects with Miguel Luciano (2003), Freddy Rodríguez (2005), Franco Mondini-Ruiz (2007), Paul Henry Ramirez (2010) and Chakaia Booker (2010), among others. Ramos is the author of the exhibition catalogs *America’s Pastime: Portrait of the Dominican Dream*, *Works by Freddy Rodríguez* and *Cut, Build and Weld: Process in Works by Chakaia Booker* as well as catalogue entries for El Museo del Barrio and The University of Texas at Austin’s Jack S. Blanton Museum of Art. She has also published in *American Art*, *African Arts* and the *New West Indian Guide*. She is currently working on a monograph devoted to the work of Freddy Rodríguez that is part of the *A Ver: Revisioning Art History* book series.
AGENDA  
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 7TH

1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM, G Street Lobby
REGISTRATION

3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.
SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM, Nan Tucker McEvoy Auditorium
WELCOME REMARKS
Virginia Mecklenburg, Senior Curator, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Smithsonian Institution
María de los Angeles Torres, IUPRL Executive Director, University of Illinois at Chicago
Eduardo Díaz, Director, Smithsonian Latino Center, Smithsonian Institution

3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.
SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM, Nan Tucker McEvoy Auditorium
KEYNOTE ADDRESS
E. Carmen Ramos, Curator of Latino Art, Smithsonian American Art Museum
What is Latino About American Art?
Introduced by: Tomás Ybarra-Frausto, Independent Scholar

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
VISIT EXHIBITION: Our America: The Latino Presence in American Art, Third Floor North

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM, Nan Tucker McEvoy Auditorium
ARTISTS PANEL Defining and Defying Latino Art: A Conversation with Five Artists
Moderator: E. Carmen Ramos, Curator of Latino Art, Smithsonian American Art Museum
Panelists:
Elia Alba
Maria Martínez-Cañas
Miguel Luciano
Amalia Mesa-Bains
Jesús Moroles

7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM, Luce Foundation Center, Third Floor
RECEPTION
10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN, Lobby by Rasmuson Theater

REGISTRATION

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN, Rasmuson Theater
PLENARY SESSION: A CLOSER LOOK: THE SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM’S LATINO COLLECTION IN CONTEXT
Moderator: E. Carmen Ramos, Smithsonian American Art Museum
Panelists:
Abigail McEwen, University of Maryland at College Park
Olga Albizu and the Borders of Abstraction
Yasmin Ramirez, Independent Scholar
Planes, Prisons and Platanos: Tropecalisms in Dyasporican Art
Abigail Lapin Dardashti, The Graduate Center, City University of New York
Scherezade Garcia: (Post) Colonial Images of Displacement and Travel

12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
LUNCH BREAK (On your own)

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN, Rasmuson Theater
SESSION 1: ART BEFORE THE LATINO ERA
Moderator: Holly Barnet-Sanchez, University of New Mexico
Panelists:
Tomás Ybarra-Frausto, Independent Scholar
Xavier Martínez (1869-1934): A Precursor of Contemporary Mexican American Art
Renee M. Moreno, California State University, Northridge
“Every Day a Challenge...”: The Works Progress Administration (WPA) and Denver Artist Juan Menchaca
Constance Cortez, Texas Tech University
Channeling the Past?: The Use of Pre-Columbian Imagery by Mexican American Artists of Texas

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN, Room 4018/4019, Fourth Floor
SESSION 2: DEFYING CATEGORIES
Moderator: Jennifer A. González, University of California, Santa Cruz
Panelists:
Tey Marianna Nunn, National Hispanic Cultural Center Art Museum and Visual Arts Program
Aquí y Ahora: Framing a New New Mexican / Nuevo Mexicano Art
Alma Lopez Gaspar de Alba, Artist
Juan Soldado: A Latina Digital Art Intervention on the Tijuana/California Border
Orquídea Morales, University of Michigan
Futurities: Latino Video Art, New Media and the Baroque
AGENDA  FRIDAY NOVEMBER 8TH

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN, Patrons Lounge, Fourth Floor
SESSION 3: THE ART OF COLLECTING
Moderator: Gilberto Cárdenas, University of Notre Dame
Panelists:
Harriet and Ricardo Romo, University of Texas at San Antonio
The Impact of a Passion and a Gift: Estampas de la Raza
Armando Durón, Collector, Los Angeles
But What’s it Worth? A Collector’s Dilemma
José Vidal, Vidal Design, SMV Gallery
Living with a Nuyorican Collection

4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
BREAK

4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN, Rasmuson Theater
SESSION 4: CURRENT FRAMEWORKS FOR EXPLORING LATINO ART
Moderator: Bibian Suárez, DePaul University
Panelists:
Terezita Romo, San Francisco Foundation
Re-Searching for an American Art
Karen Mary Davalos, Loyola Marymount University
Theorizing Chicana/o Art: Documenting the Undocumented
Dolores Rivas Bahti, University of Arizona
A Regional Arc of Photographic Images and Ideas: Latino/a Border Subjects
Taína B. Caragol, National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution
Circumventing Essence: Framing Portraits by Latino Contemporary Artists

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN, Room 4018/4019, Fourth Floor*
SESSION 5: PRESERVING LEGACIES: ARCHIVES AND BEYOND
Moderator: Jason Stieber, Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution
Panelists:
Pedro Juan Hernández, Hunter College, CUNY
Forty Years of Puerto Rican Art Collecting in New York: Building an Archival Collection at the Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños
Ella Maria Diaz, Cornell University
The Politics of Collecting Practice and the Royal Chicano Air Force
Josephine S. Talamantez, Independent Arts and Culture Consultant
The listing of Chicano Park and the Chicano Park Monumental Murals on the National Register: Its Implications on other Chicano/Latino Historical Works of Art

*Please note: Capacity in this room is limited; arrive early—first come, first seated.
4:30 p.m.–6:00 p.m.
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN, Patrons Lounge, Fourth Floor*
SESSION 6: EKPHRASIS: THEORY, THEN PRACTICE IN POEMS INSPIRED BY LATINO ART
Moderator: Francisco Aragón, University of Notre Dame
Panelists:
Tino Villanueva
Picture This: The Ekphrastic Poem
Eduardo C. Corral
Slow Lightning
*Please note: Capacity in this room is limited; arrive early—first come, first seated.

AGENDA
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 8TH

11:30 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM, G Street Lobby
REGISTRATION

12:00 noon–1:30 p.m.
SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM, Nan Tucker McEvoy Auditorium
PLENARY SESSION: DEFINING LATINIDAD IN AMERICAN ART
Moderator: Susana Torruella Leval, Independent Curator
Panelists:
Pilar Tompkins Rivas, Los Angeles County Museum of Art and Chon A. Noriega, University of California, Los Angeles
Curating a Place Called Home
Luis R. Cancel, Entrepreneurial Cultural Consulting
Cultural Notes from Da’Hood: The Struggle Between Puerto Rican/Latino Cultural Identity in NYC
María del Mar González-González, University of Utah
Defining Latinidad in American Art: Allora & Calzadilla at the Biennale di Venezia

1:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m.
LUNCH BREAK (On your own)

2:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.
SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM, G Street Lobby
BOOK SIGNING
AGENDA
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9TH

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM, Nan Tucker McEvoy Auditorium
SESSION 7: ACTIVISM, SOCIAL PRACTICE AND AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT
Moderator: Arlene Dávila, New York University
Panelists:
V. Gina Díaz, University of New Mexico
Radical Thought, Contemporary Artivism, and the Future of the Latino Art Field
Judith Huacuja, University of Dayton
JP Paralelos: Staging Hybrid Identities Within The Heartland
Luis Vargas-Santiago, University of Texas at Austin
Zapata: A Transnational Icon for Greater Mexico

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM, Museum Boardroom, Luce Foundation Center, Third Floor*
SESSION 8: LATINO ART IN PUBLIC SPACES
Moderator: Henry Estrada, Public Art San Antonio
Panelists:
Rosa M. Cabrera, University of Illinois at Chicago
Butterfly Milkweed and the DREAM 9: What's art got to do with it?
Carlos Callejo, Artist-in-Residence, Chicano Studies, UTEP
Chicano Mural Present Status
Marisa Lerer, The University of Denver
The Devil Welcomes You: Luis Jimenez’s Mustang

* Please note: Capacity in this room is limited; arrive early—first come, first seated.

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM, McMillan Education Center, First Floor*
SESSION 9: THE CITY AS SITE AND SOURCE
Moderator: Carla Stellweg, School of Visual Arts, New York City
Panelists:
George Vargas, Texas A&M University at Kingsville
Chaz Bojorquez, Chicano Cholo Graffiti Writer: Painting Both Wall and Cloud
Johana Londoño, University at Albany, SUNY
Latino Design in the Americas: A Typographer’s Inspiration Across Barrio Landscapes
Rocío Aranda-Alvarado, El Museo del Barrio
Only in New York: The Work of Agustín Fernández

* Please note: Capacity in this room is limited; arrive early—first come, first seated.
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| 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | **PLENARY SESSION 1**  
A CLOSER LOOK:  
THE SMITHSONIAN  
AMERICAN ART MUSEUM’S LATINO COLLECTION IN CONTEXT |                |                |
| 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.    | **LUNCH BREAK**                                       |                |                |
| 2:30-4:00 p.m.       | **PANEL SESSION 1**  
ART BEFORE THE LATINO ERA | **PANEL SESSION 2**  
DEFYING CATEGORIES | **PANEL SESSION 3**  
THE ART OF COLLECTING |
| 4:00 – 4:30 p.m.     | **BREAK**                                              |                |                |
| 4:30-6:30 p.m.       | **PANEL SESSION 4**  
CURRENT FRAMEWORKS FOR EXPLORING LATINO ART | **PANEL SESSION 5**  
PRESERVING LEGACIES: ARCHIVES AND BEYOND | **PANEL SESSION 6**  
EKPHRASIS: THEORY, THEN PRACTICE IN POEMS INSPIRED BY LATINO ART |
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<td>PANEL SESSION 7 ARTIVISM, SOCIAL PRACTICE AND AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT</td>
<td>PANEL SESSION 8 LATINO ART IN PUBLIC SPACEST</td>
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Aranda-Alvarado, Rocío, Panel Session 9
Bahti, Dolores Rivas, Panel Session 4
Barnet-Sanchez, Holly, Panel Session 1
Cabrera, Rosa M., Panel Session 8
Callejo, Carlos, Panel Session 8
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Caragol, Taína B., Panel Session 4
Cárdenas, Gilberto, Panel Session 3
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Cortez, Constance, Panel Session 1
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Dávila, Arlene, Panel Session 7
Díaz, Ella Maria, Panel Session 5
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González-Gonzáles, María del Mar, Plenary Session 2
Hernández, Pedro Juan, Panel Session 5
Huacuja, Judith, Panel Session 7
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Lopez Gaspar de Alba, Alma, Panel Session 2
McEwen, Abigail, Plenary Session 1
Morales, Orquídea, Panel Session 2
Moreno, Renee M., Panel Session 1
Noriega, Chon A., Plenary Session 2
Nunn, Tey Marianna, Panel Session 2
Ramos, E. Carmen, Keynote and Plenary Session 1
Ramírez, Yasmin, Plenary Session 1
Romo, Harriett, Panel Session 3
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Vidal, José, Panel Session 3
Villanueva, Tino, Panel Session 6
Ybarra-Frausto, Tomás, Panel Session 1
The **Inter-University Program for Latino Research (IUPLR)** is a national consortium of university-based centers dedicated to the advancement of the Latino intellectual presence in the United States. IUPLR works to expand the pool of Latino scholars and leaders and increase the availability of policy-relevant Latino-focused research. IUPLR headquarters, located at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and the IUPLR Washington DC Office, located at the University of California Washington Center, work to strengthen the network of centers and to enhance their institutional capacity. IUPLR’s objectives are: to promote comparative, interdisciplinary, and policy-focused research; to develop collaborative national programs that support Latino students and faculty in higher education; to establish collaborative projects with scholars in the arts, culture and the humanities; and to disseminate publications generated by the IUPLR national network of scholars.

Created in 1997, the **Smithsonian Latino Center** works pan-institutionally with the entire network of Smithsonian museums, research centers, programs and almost 200 affiliates nationwide to ensure that Latino culture, achievement and contributions are celebrated and recognized. The Smithsonian Latino Center ensures that Latino contributions to the arts, sciences, and humanities are highlighted, understood, and advanced through the development and support of public programs, research, museum collections, and educational opportunities at the Smithsonian Institution.

The **Smithsonian American Art Museum** celebrates the vision and creativity of Americans with artworks in all media spanning more than three centuries. Its Latino art collection, which was established nearly 40 years ago, represents a profound commitment to building a great national collection reflecting the rich contributions of Latinos to the United States from the colonial period to the present.
Conference organized by:
The Inter-University Program for Latino Research (IUPLR) headquartered at the University of Illinois at Chicago
Smithsonian Latino Center
Smithsonian American Art Museum

Sponsors:
The Latino Art Now! Conference is made possible through the generous support of the following organizations and individuals

Dr. Walter and Janet Miller Fund
Henry R. Muñoz III/ Muñoz & Co.
Letras Latinas at the University of Notre Dame
Smithsonian Latino Initiatives Pool administered by the Smithsonian Latino Center
Southwest Airlines