



The US-Mexico Border: Place, Imagination, and Possibility

A two-part exhibition and series of public programs



WHEN:

516 ARTS: January 27– April 14, 2018
Albuquerque Museum: January 13 – April 15, 2018

RECEPTION:

Saturday, January 27, 2018:

5-6pm: Member Preview/Walkthrough at 516 ARTS

6-8pm: Opening reception at 516 ARTS

See pages 2-3 for public programs with partners around Albuquerque.

WHERE:

516 ARTS, 516 Central Ave. SW, Downtown Albuquerque
Albuquerque Museum, 2000 Mountain Rd. NW, Old Town, Albuquerque

PUBLIC INFO:

516arts.org • albuquerquemuseum.org

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Acclaimed border exhibition from Los Angeles' Pacific Standard Time comes to 516 ARTS and the Albuquerque Museum, spurring expansive collaboration

516 ARTS, in partnership with the Albuquerque Museum, announces ***The US-Mexico Border: Place, Imagination, and Possibility*** co-curated by Dr. Lowery Stokes Sims and Ana Elena Mallet. The group exhibition presents the work of over 40 designers and artists working along the US-Mexico border who are engaging with the intersections of culture that have developed in the region while considering the welfare and wellbeing of migrants and citizens who live there. This exhibition was originated at the Craft & Folk Art Museum in Los Angeles, where it was part of the Getty's Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA initiative and supported by major grants from the Getty Foundation. The main exhibition in Albuquerque is hosted by 516 ARTS, and has been expanded into a collaboration with an additional exhibition site at the Albuquerque Museum and accompanying interdisciplinary public programs around Albuquerque.

The border has come to occupy an intellectual and an emotionally charged space as well as a territorial one. It exists within the geography of memory as much as being a place of transit and transformation. Much of the creative production around the border unearths ways in which artists, architects, designers and makers who live in border states negotiate two divided but interconnected realities. Although this exhibition was conceived before the topic of "building a wall" along the US-Mexico border re-emerged in media headlines, its relevance is more potent and instructive than ever before.

The contemporary artists in this exhibition explore the border as a physical reality (place), as a subject (imagination), and as a site for production and forward thinking solutions (possibility). While the selection largely focuses on work executed in the last two decades, it also includes objects by Chicano artists in California who came together in the

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1970s and 1980s to address border issues in their work. The inclusion of artists from various disciplines, including design, architecture, sculpture, painting and photography, reflects the ways in which contemporary artists and designers themselves cross disciplinary borders.

Featured artists: Tanya Aguiñiga, Pilar Agüero-Esparza & Hector Dio Mendoza, Haydee Alonso, Guillermo Bert, Elvira Bessudo, Margarita Cabrera, Cristina Celis, Teddy Cruz, Adrian Esparza, Carlota Espinoza, Jorge Diego Etienne, Andres Fonseca, Guillermo Galindo, Rupert García, Bob Haozous, Luis Jiménez, Douglas Kent Hall, Alejandra Antón Honorato, Jami Porter Lara, La Metropolitana, Lorena Lazard, Andrés Lhima, Los Dos de Los (Yreina Cervantez & Leo Limón), Pablo López Luz, Delilah Montoya, Julio César Morales, Elizabeth Rustrian Ortega, Viviana Paredes, G.T. Pellizzi, Postcommodity, Daisy Quezada Ureña, Marcos Ramírez ERRE, Augustine Romero, Betsabeé Romero, Zinna Rudman, Mauricio Sáenz, Eduardo Sarabia, Agnes Seebass, Elizabeth Sisco, Ray Smith, Studio Rael San Fratello, Curiot Tlalpazotl, F. Van Derren Coke and Consuelo Jimenez Underwood.

Since the 1990s, the US-Mexico border has become an important site for creative exploration of issues related to emigration, immigration, labor conditions, intersections of identity and transformation. The US-Mexico border is often thought to include territory within 100 miles of the national boundaries of the two countries; however, this exhibition's parameters includes the whole of the ten US and Mexican states situated directly along the national boundaries. This allows the exhibition to acknowledge the persistence and survival of heritage and culture in the passing down of traditional skills and techniques within various communities and families on either side of the border.

"The border has been a contentious site for much longer than the current news cycle's focus on 'the wall,'" says co-curator Dr. Lowery Stokes Sims. "And though the exhibition has taken on a particular urgency in the current political environment, this project recognizes the border as a long-standing site of interdependence and connectivity, despite the painful divisions it causes. We celebrate the creativity and commitment of this selection of designers, artists and makers for whom the border is a lived experience." *The US-Mexico Border: Place, Imagination, and Possibility* demonstrates the humanity and distinct creative cultures along this contested territory and underscores the interconnectedness of the two countries that are in danger of being violently and destructively impacted by aggressive nationalism, policies of exclusion and racism. A fully illustrated exhibition catalogue includes essay contributions by Michael Dear, Gustavo Leclerc, Kerry Doyle, Amalia Mesa-Bains, Jose Manuel Valenzuela Arce, Teddy Cruz & Fonna Forman and Jorge Gracia.

Co-curator **Dr. Lowery Stokes Sims**, recently named one of the Most Influential Curators by *Artsy*, is the retired Curator Emerita at the Museum of Arts and Design. She served as executive director then president of The Studio Museum in Harlem and was on the education and curatorial staff of The Metropolitan Museum of Art. A specialist in modern and contemporary art, she is known for her particular expertise in the work of African, Latino, Native and Asian American artists. She has published extensively, has lectured nationally and internationally and has guest curated numerous exhibitions around the world. Sims holds a Ph.D. in Art History from the Graduate School of the City University of New York, and has received six honorary degrees.

PARTNERS:

Public programs around the city include activities in partnership with: The Guild Cinema, Humans of New Mexico, the National Hispanic Cultural Center, New Mexico Immigrant Law Center, the Outpost Performance Space, The Sanitary Tortilla Factory, The University of New Mexico American Studies Department, Art Museum, School of Architecture and Zimmerman Library.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS:

Thursday, January 19, 5-8:30pm

Third Thursday: *Art & Social Commentary*

Panel including artists Jami Porter Lara and Bob Haozous, screen printing with Jon Sanchez and Jeremy Montoya, and music by Baracutanga.

Presented by/at Albuquerque Museum

Thursday, January 25, 5:30pm

Member event for Friends of 516 ARTS: Q&A with Visiting Muralist Curiot Tlalpazotl

Presented by/at 516 ARTS

Friday, January 26, 6-9pm

Partner Exhibit Opening: *Interior Landscapes*

Performances: Fridays, January 26 & February 23, 7pm

Presented by 516 ARTS & The Sanitary Tortilla Factory, at The Sanitary Tortilla Factory
(on view January 26 - February 23, 2018)

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Saturday, January 27, 1pm

Guest Speaker Series: *Co-Curator Dr. Lowery Stokes Sims*

Presented by 516 ARTS & Albuquerque Museum, at Albuquerque Museum

Saturday, January 27, 5-8pm

Opening Reception: *The US-Mexico Border: Place, Imagination, and Possibility*

5-6pm: Preview for Friends of 516 ARTS with walkthrough featuring guest curator & artists

6-8pm: Public Reception, music by Lone Piñon

Presented by/at 516 ARTS

Thursday, February 8, 5:30pm

Public Forum: *DREAM Act: Advocacy & Alliances*

Representatives from The Santa Fe Dreamers Project, NM Dream Team and the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center.

Presented by 516 ARTS at the Outpost Performance Space

Sunday, February 18, 1-5pm

Workshop: Huarache Making with Pilar Pilar Agüero-Esparza

Presented by/at 516 ARTS

Thursday, February 22, 7pm

Screening: *Femme Frontera Short Films Showcase*

Presented by 516 ARTS at The Guild Cinema

Saturday, February 24, 10am-noon

Workshop: *Smart Device Filmmaking with Femme Frontera*

Presented by 516 ARTS & National Hispanic Cultural Center at National Hispanic Cultural Center

Thursday March 1, 5:30pm

Guest Speaker Series: *Cartoonist Lalo Alcaraz*

Presented by UNM Art Museum and 516 ARTS at George Pearl Hall, UNM

Saturday, March 2, 5-7pm

Partner Exhibit Opening: *Humans of New Mexico: Stories of Resilience of a Border State*

Presented by Humans of New Mexico and 516 ARTS at UNM Zimmerman Library (on view March 2-31, 2018)

Friday, March 9, 5:30pm

Public Forum: *Sovereignty & Sanctuary*

Presented by UNM American Studies Department and 516 ARTS at the Outpost Performance Space

Friday, March 30, 7:30pm

Reading: *516 WORDS: Demetria Martinez, Denise Chavez & Mari Simba*

Presented by 516 ARTS at the Outpost Performance Space

Saturday, April 7, 7:30pm

Concert: *Frontera Bugalu & Lone Piñon*

Presented by/at Outpost Performance Space

Friday April 13, 7pm

Guest Speaker Series: *Journalists Maria Hinojosa & Simon Romero in Conversation*

Presented by 516 ARTS & National Hispanic Cultural Center at the KiMo Theatre

followed by an exhibition closing reception at 516 ARTS

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