



**January 22, 2019**  
**Arts, Culture & Heritage**  
**Committee: Item #2**

Presented by: Debbie Racca-Sittre, Director  
Department of Arts & Culture

# Centro de Artes Background

Mission: Centro de Artes is an institution dedicated to telling the story of the Latino experience in the U.S. with a focus on South Texas through local and regional art, history and culture, and dedicated to sharing the transnational experience of Latinos in the U.S.

FY2017 – 6 Exhibits: 8,300 visitors

FY2018 – 3 Exhibits: 9,646 visitors

FY2019 – 2 Exhibits: 1,725 visitors Oct-Nov 18

# Strategic Plan Background

- June 2017 - Strategic Plan adopted after a series of 6 community visioning sessions.
- San Antonio Arts Commission appointed a committee to oversee implementation of the Strategic Plan.



# Centro de Artes Committee Members

- Yadhira Lozano, (Chair) SAAC D3 Appointee
- Susana Segura, SAAC D4 Appointee
- Cristina Balli, Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center
- Dr. Ellen Riojas Clark, UTSA
- Adriana Gallego, National Assoc. of Latino Arts & Culture
- Dr. Sarah Gould, Esperanza Peace & Justice Center
- Harvey Mireles, The Printeria
- Nick Pena, Market Square Business Owners Association
- Kathy Vargas, University of the Incarnate Word

# Open Call for Exhibits & Programs

- National Open Call sought curators, artists, and organizations interested in exhibiting at Centro de Artes
- 20 submitted proposals reviewed and scored by the Centro de Artes Committee
- Staff established a schedule of exhibitions for Centro de Artes of the top scoring proposals for 2019 and 2020



# 2019 Schedule Overview

January 14 – February 6

- 3 ½ Weeks
- Closed for Exhibition Change

February 7 – June 2

- Nuestra Latinidad
- Delilah Montoya, Joshua Perez, Gabriel Villa, Jake Prendez

June 3 – June 26

- 3 ½ Weeks
- Closed for Exhibition Change

June 27 – September 29

- New York Foundation for the Arts Immigrant Artist Mentorship Program

September 30 –  
October 24

- 3 ½ Weeks
- Closed for Exhibition Change

October 24 –  
January 19, 2020

- Day of the Dead Exhibitions by Ruben Cordova, Ph.D. and Self Help Graphics

# February 7 – June 2, 2019

## *Nuestra Latinidad*

4 solo exhibitions selected from the Open Call will be on both floors of the gallery. A catalogue will be published and artist panel discussions will be held in March and May, 2019.



*Joshua Perez (San Antonio)*



*Top: Jake Prendez (Seattle)*

*Above: Delilah Montoya (Houston)*

*Left: Gabriel Villa (Chicago)*

# Nuestra Latinidad

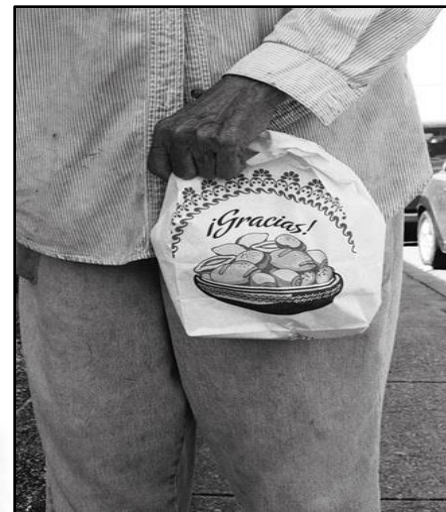


**Delilah Montoya - Contemporary  
Casta Portraiture: Nuestra "Calidad"**  
Nuestra "Calidad" is an ethnographic art project that examines the ethnic roots of Colonial Heritage Families.



## Joshua Perez - *Todo Esta Bien, Everything's Good*

This exhibition is a long form street photography and portrait project shot on 35mm and medium format black and white film.



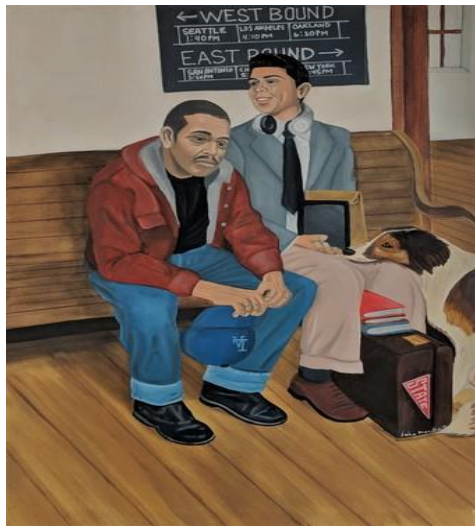


# Nuestra Latinidad



*Jake Prendez - Genetic Memory: Xinachtli to Xochitl*

This exhibit deals with identity, Chicanx/Latinx culture, art as a tool for social change, ancestry and connecting us to our indigenous roots.



*Gabriel Villa - Human Dive: Works by Gabriel Villa, 2007 - 2018*

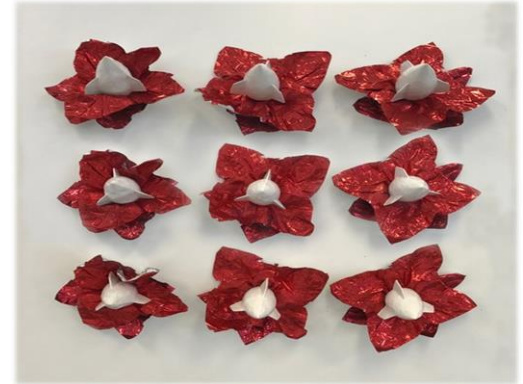
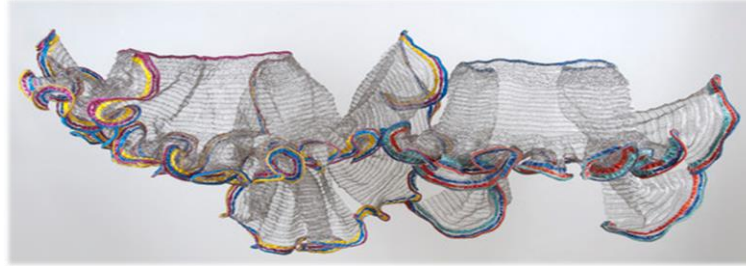
This exhibition by the Chicago-based artist features works from four series made during 2007-2018, including large scale paintings, drawings, and prints.



# June 27 – September 29, 2019

*New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA) Immigrant Artist Mentorship Program Exhibition* - Organizer: Kim Bishop (San Antonio)

Exhibit pairs immigrant artists working in all disciplines with artist mentors to guide them to achieve specific goals and provide broader access to urban cultural centers through an exchange of ideas, resources and experiences. This exhibition will showcase each of the mentors and the mentees' art and partnering local arts organizations.



Above: Luis Valderas  
Top Middle: Naomi Wanjiku  
Bottom Middle : Jorge Villareal  
Far Left: Kim Bishop

# October 24 – January 19, 2020

## Day of the Dead Exhibits



Alma Lopez



Posada



Luis Jimenez



Veronica Castillo

### ***First Floor Exhibit: Day of the Dead from Aztec to Today***

- Curator: Ruben C. Cordova, Ph.D. (San Antonio)
- This exhibition and catalogue will present a comprehensive account of its origins and evolution to the current day and extend from the Aztecs through to the modern period in Mexico, to its dissemination to the U.S.

# October 24 – January 19, 2020

## Day of the Dead Exhibits



Installation, Penacho and  
Traditional Dress



Sonia Romero



Shizu Saldamando  
*Alice Bag*, 2016

### ***Second Floor Exhibit: Día de Los Muertos: A Cultural Legacy, Past, Present and Future***

- Organizer: Self Help Graphics and Art (Los Angeles)
- This exhibition will explore the evolution of Día de los Muertos founded by Self Help Graphics & Art in Los Angeles and the foundational transnational dialogue between the Chicano/Latino community and Mexico that continues to shape the tradition as celebrated on both sides of the border. The exhibition was part of Pacific Standard Time funded by the Getty Foundation.

# 2020 Schedule Overview

January 20 – February 12

- 3 ½ Weeks
- Closed for Exhibition Change

February 13 – June 28

- **XicanX: New Visions** - Curated by Dos Mestizx
- **Los Maestros: Early Explorers of Chicano Identity** – Organized by Centro Cultural Aztlan

June 29 – July 22

- 3 ½ Weeks
- Closed for Exhibition Change

July 23– January 2021

- **Project: MASA – IV**

# February 13 – June 28, 2020

- Each floor will feature an exhibition related to Chicano art. Visitors to Centro de Artes will see the evolution of the Chicano art movement from the early generation to the diverse group of contemporary artists working today.

*XicanX: New Visions*  
Curated by Dos Mestizx



Francisco Moreno  
*Las Noticias* (After Velasquez's *Las Meninas*, 2012)

*Los Maestros: Early Explorers of Chicano Identity*



# February 13 – June 28, 2020



Isabel Ann Castro  
*Holding Hands*



Maritza Torres  
*L.A. Woman*

## *XicanX: New Visions*

San Antonio based curators: Dos Mestizx  
(Suzy González and Michael Menchaca)

This national exhibit will span Chicano-identifying artists from Texas, California, New York, Chicago, Indiana, Colorado, Georgia, New Mexico, and more. The exhibit will include immersive installations, sculpture, painting, printmaking, and performance art.



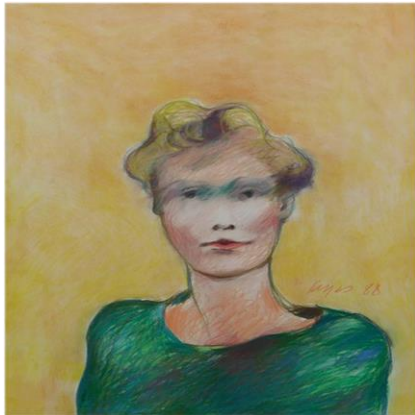
Zeke Peña  
*La Chica Boom in Funkterra*

# February 13 – June 28, 2020

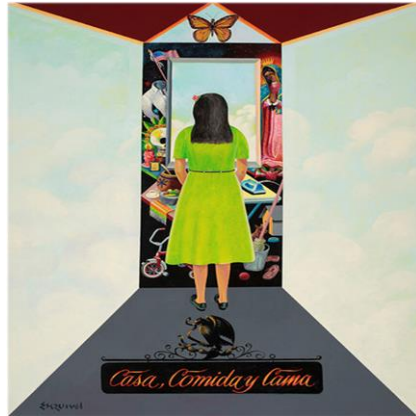
## *Los Maestros: Early Explorers of Chicano Identity*

Organizer: Centro Cultural Aztlan (San Antonio)

This exhibit will feature four of the founders of San Antonio's Chicano arts movement of the 1960s and 70s - Jesse Almazan (deceased), Jose Esquivel, Felipe Reyes, and Rudy Trevino.



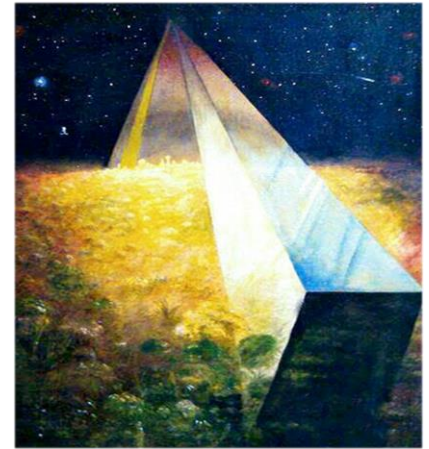
Felipe Reyes  
*Marcella in Green Dress*



Jose Esquivel  
*Casa Comida y Cama*



Jesse Almazan  
*El Rey*



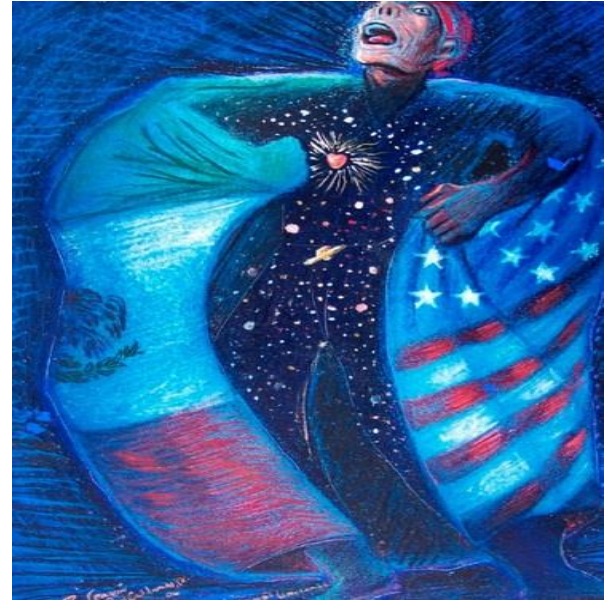
Rudy Trevino  
*Magical Pyramid*



# July 23, 2020 – January 2021

## *Project: MASA-IV*

- Organizer: Luis Valderas (San Antonio)
- The Project: MASA series was organized in 2005 to explore the fascination that Mexican-American/Latino artists have with science fiction and their use of tropes to make socio-political statements with their work.
- Project: MASA-IV will include 7 Texan artists (L.A. David Vato Cosmico, Luis "Chispas" Guerrero, Hector Hernandez, Paul Karam, Raul Servin, Luis Valderas, Debora Kuetzpal Vasquez) who will then select 5 more artists, based on the speculative futurism idea. In keeping with the space metaphor, the exhibit space would then be curated/organized into dialog Space Stations. There would be a total of 42 visual artist featured in the exhibit.



Raul Servin  
*The Chicano Universe*



## Next Steps

- Open call for exhibits for 2021 and 2022 will be released Fall 2019
- Staff will manage the process
- Centro de Artes Committee will be the evaluation panel and exhibits will be approved by the San Antonio Arts Commission
- Staff will oversee installations and contracts



# FY19 Call for Public Art Qualifications



Pre-submittal Workshop on Tuesday, February 5 at 4 p.m., Central Library