



LATIN AMERICAN ART PATRONS



Reserve Your Spot!

Artist Talk with Marcos Serafim

Brazilian artist Marcos Serafim will speak to LAAP about his work across images, video and sound in theatrical exhibitions, installation, and performance. His work touches on subjects such as the HIV/AIDS crisis, religious African-Brazilian minorities in rural Brazil, the Haitian history of revolution, and other religious and racial minoritized groups.

Saturday, January 13, 2024, 2:00 pm

Education Center
Tucson Museum of Art

RSVP by January 10 at
Artist Talk with Marcos Serafim

IN THIS ISSUE

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

LETTER FROM YOUR CURATOR

SAVE THE DATES: UPCOMING LAAP/TMA EVENTS

OUT AND ABOUT: EXHIBITS OF INTEREST

and more!

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

SUE ERICKSON NIELAND



The Latin American Art Patrons have had a remarkably busy fall and suddenly the optimism of a new year is upon us. Our September program at MOCA was linked to the opening of *CUMBI Textiles, Society and Memory in Andean South America*. We celebrated the opening of this extraordinary exhibition with a curator's tour followed by a cocktail reception featuring a delicious selection of Andean appetizers. It was a hot but memorable afternoon and I continue to return to the exhibition learning something new with each walk through. The ancillary programming associated with CUMBI has been incredible. Many of our members attended Andrew Hamilton's lecture, "The Royal Inca Tunic," and I was amazed by the questions posed . . . Tucsonans truly know their textiles!



At the CUMBI curator's tour, Bonnie Wehle (l) and Kathi Sanders (r) were recognized by Kristopher Driggers as sponsors of the exhibit, along with LAAP.



During the curator's tour, Kristopher explained the origins and significance of items chosen for the CUMBI exhibition.

In November and for several months before, our members buckled down to support our biennial fundraiser, a sale of art and international folk art. Members donated an amazing variety of *objets d'art*, picked up and stored donations over the summer, priced the donations, hauled boxes to TMA, set up a lovely booth in the atrium and sold like crazy for three days. We also wish to thank the TMA League who donated folk art left over from The Treasure House!

Proceeds from our sale totaled \$7,787.50!



In the LAAP booth at the TMA Artisan's Market, customers were able to purchase a wide variety of donated items, including a woven wall hanging, Mata Ortiz pottery and Oaxacan wood carvings.

In addition to raising money, our sale was a great way to build camaraderie among our members. I thoroughly enjoyed and learned so much about my co-workers and the buying public! In another life I was an antiques dealer and still enjoy the warmth of vintage objects and the delight of someone finding the previously-owned that speaks directly to them.

On a chilly December afternoon, ten of us enjoyed the rare opportunity to bake cookies under the supervision of the Franco family and their *maestro de panaderia* at La Estrella Bakery in Barrio Hollywood. The Francos selected a variety of cookies from Mexico, Argentina and Colombia and we baked until our elbows ached. We each took home hundreds of cookies and I was busy for several days parceling them out to friends and family. Special thanks to Nancy McCluskey-Moore for organizing this event for us!



At a La Estrella Bakery class, attendees watched demonstrations and made four types of traditional Latin American holiday cookies. The bakery owners donated their instructor fees to LAAP.

As we prepare for the upcoming tax season, TMA management has advised us as to the tax deductibility of your donations to the museum and LAAP. Guidelines are forthcoming but for now use the following:

1. Your membership dues are fully deductible as you receive no goods and services.
2. Travel fundraisers have a built-in donation to LAAP; for example, \$300 per person of the San Antonio trip was a donation but we ask individuals to consult their tax professionals for these issues.

Best wishes for the New Year,
Sue

LETTER FROM THE CURATOR



Dear LAAP Members,

At TMA, we've recently been thinking a lot about time. We're turning 100 in 2024 – which means the museum is ready to celebrate. Longtime TMA supporters likely know that the museum got its start when a group of volunteers – most of them women – came together in the conviction that Tucson needed an organization to support the arts. It would be almost four decades before the group would collect an artwork (that first acquisition came in 1959) and more than fifty years before the museum would get a permanent home, in what today we call the Historic Block. Growing that volunteer organization into the more mature museum that it is today meant long stretches of work that occasionally culminated in major milestones. Thank goodness they stayed the course! Today, TMA holds over 11,000

artworks, and a dedicated professional staff stewards those collections for Tucson, including the exceptional Latin American Art collection we all play a role in activating.

As part of our Centennial, TMA is going to be hosting programs exploring concepts related to time. Our centennial exhibition, opening in March, will be *Time Travelers*, a show about how key artworks from our collection relate to times of foundation, moments of transformation, and eras of expansion. Keep an eye out for a curator talk by Yours Truly about Mesoamerican concepts of time – including a discussion of art related to ancient Mexico's calendar systems. There will also be programs about how things are cared for and stewarded for longevity, and, of course, our not-to-be-missed TMA Gala, which takes us back to the first artwork brought into the TMA collection.

Amidst all this reflection on our place in history, I will point out that LAAP, too, has its long history – of which we are all part. More than two decades ago, LAAP hosted its first events to generate support for the establishment of new Latin American galleries in the museum's historic houses. Within a short time, LAAP had rapidly grown its membership, and created an active series of programs to build up the museum. Whether you are a longtime supporter or a newcomer to LAAP, thank you for all you do to make our history long and fruitful.

Warmly yours,

Kristopher Driggers
Associate Curator,
Bernard and Jeanette Schmidt Curator of Latin American Art

In an historical photograph, the Tucson Museum of Art's Latin American art collection is shown being displayed on the bottom floor.



LAAP EVENTS



Visit to Sara Hubbs' Studio

Sunday, February 4, 2004, 10:30 am
Milville Studios
925 E. Mill Street

RSVP by February 1 at

LAAP studio visit with Sara Hubbs

Sara Hubbs, Untitled from Costumes of Absence series

Join LAAP for a studio tour with Sara Hubbs, a Tucson-based glass and installation artist whose work has been exhibited across the U.S. and in Mexico. In addition to discussing her artistic practice and current research, Sara will also introduce us to Millville Studios, a collection of studio rentals and a platform for emerging artists to exhibit their work in an experimental environment.

TMA EVENTS

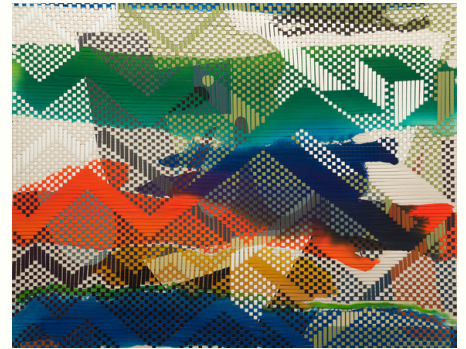
Artist Talk: Miguel Arzabe

Wednesday January 24, 2024 5:30 – 7:00 pm

Education Center, Tucson Museum
of Art

Hear from contemporary artist Miguel Arzabe as he discusses his artwork on view in CUMBI: Textiles, Society, and Memory in Andean South America, his creative practice, and how his works draw inspiration from the cultural techniques and motifs of his Andean heritage.

Miguel Arzabe makes colorful and dynamic abstractions – weavings, paintings, videos. He starts by finding outdated beauty in paper ephemera from art shows, modernist paintings, discarded audio recordings.



Miguel Arzabe, Llallagua, 2021, woven acrylic on canvas. Courtesy of Paul and Cassandra Hazen. Photo courtesy of the artist.

Register at Artist Talk Miguel Arzabe

SAVE THE DATES



Curator Spotlight: Time, Identity, and Fate in Mesoamerican Art

**Dr. Kristopher Driggers, Associate Curator,
Schmidt Curator of Latin American Art**

**February 23, 2024 at 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Stonewall Community Room**

Ancient Mesoamericans innovated sophisticated traditions for marking the passage of time: a 365-day solar calendar and a 260-day calendar for divination. Join curator Kristopher Driggers, Ph.D., for a talk exploring how Mesoamerican artworks express cultural ideas about the relationships between time, identity, and fate. Select attendees will have an opportunity to learn what primary sources say about their own calendrical fate as recorded in the Florentine Codex, an important manuscript from Nahua Mexico.

Register at [Curator Spotlight Latin American Art](#)



**Celebrate the First 100 Years & Beginning of the
Collection at Tucson Museum of Art Gala**

MARCH 16, 2024

Beginning at 5:00 pm, spend a festive evening with friends, view our Centennial Exhibition –Time Travelers: Foundations, Transformations, and Expansions at the Centennial, and enjoy great music, delectable dining, an amazing Live Auction, and so much more at the TMA Gala. All proceeds benefit the Tucson Museum of Art and Historic Block. Complimentary Valet and Gala Entrance at 175 N. Meyer (by the blue wall).

Enjoy cocktails, mingling, and silent auction from 5:00 pm. in Tucson Museum of Art's east plaza. Dinner, live auction, and fund-a-need at 6: 30 pm in our Bonnie L. Bradford Courtyard.

Advanced ticket prices are \$325 through January 12, 2024, and general ticket prices are \$350 until sold out.

To purchase tickets go to [TMA 100 Gala](#)

EXHIBITIONS OF INTEREST

Amalia Mesa-Bains: Archaeology of Memory

Phoenix Art Museum

November 23, 2023 through February 25, 2024

Amalia Mesa-Bains: Archaeology of Memory is the first major retrospective to explore the historically significant work and career of Amalia Mesa-Bains a pioneering Chicana and feminist multimedia artist. The exhibition brings together nearly 60 works created over 45 years, including the artist's renowned alter-installations and her lesser-studied handmade books and palimpsest prints characterized by a signature archeological aesthetic of layering and excavation.

2024 Border Biennial / Bienal Fronteriza 2024

El Paso Texas Museum of Art.

December 15, 2023 through April 14, 2024

The exhibit focuses on the unique identity of the borderland, which includes a diversity of experiences. It explores how artists define the region and what it means to them. Works on display speak to how artists in the borderland experience history, gender, culture, race, sexuality, food, environment, and politics. Assistant Professor of Painting and Drawing at University of Arizona and LAAP Board member Alejandro Macias' work is included in this exhibition.



"Nopal en la Frente (con Bud Light)" by Alejandro Macias

OUT AND ABOUT

Portraits: Alejandro Macias, Louis Carlos Bernal, Craig Cully, Beverly McIver and from the collection of Dan Leach and John Wells.

Artists that work with self-portraits and the concept of portraiture

Louis Carlos Bernal Gallery

Pima Community College -WC, 2202 West Anklam Rd.

January 29 through March 8, 2024

Reception on February 15 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm with lectures at 6:00 pm



"Searching for You" by Alejandro Macias

Carolina Aranibar-Fernández: Oleaje

Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art

February 10 through August 4, 2024

Oleaje [Groundswell] features new large-scale installation works by Bolivian-born artist Carolina Aranibar-Fernández that map and memorialize the rippling effects of a coercive global trade industry.

OUT AND ABOUT

Mata Ortiz Pottery from the Amerind Foundation, TMA & private patrons' collections with photography of Paqumé and Mata Ortiz by LAPP members from the LAAP trip to Mata Ortiz in February 2023

Pima Community College Visual Arts Gallery - West Campus
February 19 through March 29, 2024

Reception Monday, February 19 from 1:00-3:00 pm
Open to the public 8:00 am – 4:00 pm Monday through Saturday.

Jorge Quintana is the Mata Ortiz potter that will be featured in the exhibition. He is bringing new pottery and working with Hiro Tashima, the ceramic professor at Pima Community College, the day of the reception.



Photographs taken during the LAAP tour of Paqumé and Mata Ortiz will provide historical context for modern day Mata Ortiz pottery and depict the techniques used to create it.



Multiple-colored clays marbled together, formed, fired, incised with geometric tessellation pattern design by Jorge Quintana. Date 2022, size 7" diameter x 8" height.

MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS



Although a transplant from the East Coast, **Sharon Oliver** has lived in Tucson since the early 1990s. She enjoys the wide variety of cultural activities, artistic shows, exhibits and live performance events that seem to happen nearly every week somewhere in the city.

While she has no known artistic talents, she is a lifelong believer in community involvement and currently serves as treasurer and membership coordinator for the Rincon Heights Community Garden, is a Reading Seed coach to three elementary school children at Borton Magnet Elementary School, and volunteers in the NICU at Banner University Hospital. Additionally, she most recently stitched over 1200 pairs of baby booties as part of the Mourning Project, a project created by local fiber artist Mary Vaneecke which strives to bring much-needed awareness to the high infant mortality rate in the United States.

Sharon's hobbies include gardening, reading, cooking, and biking. She is pleased to be part of the board of the Latin American Arts Patrons and is currently serving as treasurer for the organization.



Kathleen Collins recently moved from Kansas City, MO to Tucson to spend the winter months. She spends the other half of the year on the lower Cape in Massachusetts. Up until recently her winters were spent in Mexico and she has been going to Mexico for many years, most recently Patzcuaro, in the state of Michoacan.

Kathleen is a fine art photographer by background. She started her professional life teaching photography on the college level and then moved into arts administration. She has always had an orientation towards social issues, and completed a number of documentary photo projects over the years.

When she arrived in Tucson, she connected with the Tucson Museum of Art early on and was very happy to learn about the activities of the Latin American Arts Patrons. She also started volunteering for Casa Alitas, an organization that offers shelter, necessities and travel assistance to asylum seeking families. She is excited to be able to offer time to LAAP and appreciates the work and the camaraderie of the group.

NOTA BENE

LAAP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sue Nieland, President
David Andres, Vice President
Donna Whitman, Secretary
Sharon Oliver, Treasurer
Kathi Sanders, Membership
Nancy McCluskey-Moore, Communications
Stevie Mack, Past President
Kathleen Collins
Diane Dale
Alex Macías
Kristopher Driggers, Curator

Cover images (left to right)

Marcos Serafim

Still photo from Serafim's work "Masisi Wouj"

Still photo from Serafim's "Autoimmune: Media, Computation and the AIDS Crisis"