

THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

The FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, August 2, 2017

THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, LOS ANGELES (MOCA), IN COLLABORTION WITH ONE NATIONAL GAY & LESBIAN ARCHIVES AT THE USC LIBRARIES, PRESENTS
AXIS MUNDO: QUEER NETWORKS IN CHICANO L.A.

September 9–December 31, 2017
MOCA Pacific Design Center and the ONE Gallery, West Hollywood



LOS ANGELES— The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (MOCA), is pleased to host *Axis Mundo: Queer Networks in Chicano L.A.*, organized by ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives at the USC Libraries as part of Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA. The exhibition will be shown in two West Hollywood spaces, MOCA Pacific Design Center and the ONE Gallery. It will feature more than 50 LGBTQ and Chicano artists who created experimental artworks in a variety of media between the 1960s and early 1990s—a period bookended by the Chicano Moratorium, gay liberation, and feminist movements on one end, and the ravages of the AIDS crisis on the other. *Axis Mundo* is the result of extensive research by co-curators David Evans Frantz, Curator at the ONE Archives at the USC Libraries, and C. Ondine Chavoya, Professor of Art and Latina/o Studies at Williams College. While developing the exhibition, the curators visited archives at institutions throughout North America and the United Kingdom and met with artists—as well as family members, friends, and collaborators of those artists—whose work has not been exhibited publicly since the 1970s or 1980s.

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The curators' research has helped to uncover the work of several less-visible and forgotten LGBTQ and Chicano artists from the period, including many artists who passed away due to the AIDS crisis. A focal point for the exhibition will be artist Edmundo "Mundo" Meza (1955–85), who collaborated with many of the artists featured in the exhibition and worked in media ranging from abstract paintings and sketches to performance and avant-garde window displays created with window dresser Simon Doonan for stores in West Hollywood. Additional artists include Laura Aguilar, Jerri Allyn, Roberto Gil de Montes, Gronk, Pauline Oliveros, Teddy Sandoval, Joey Terrill, Patssi Valdez, and Johanna Went, among others. The exhibition also spotlights many recently uncovered works, including minimalist collages by Carlos Almaraz produced during the early 1970s while living in New York; photographs by Warhol Factory participant Tosh Carrillo exhibited for the first time in *Axis Mundo*; documentation of a performance by Judith F. Baca at the Woman's Building; and videos, sound records, and flyer designs by the queer punk band Nervous Gender. This presentation offers a new lens on art and culture, by looking at artistic interventions in both the LGBTQ and Chicana/o activist movements, experimental performances from the Los Angeles punk scene, and mail art and zines that enabled new modes of community and collaboration through DIY distribution.

In conjunction with the *Axis Mundo* exhibition and MOCA's public programs, ONE Archives will present additional public programs at venues throughout Los Angeles. ONE Archives will also publish a fully illustrated, 414-page exhibition catalogue featuring an introductory essay by co-curators Chavoya and Frantz as well as nine additional thematic essays, reprints of historical texts and archival documents, and individual biographical entries for all the included artists. Catalogue contributors include Leticia Alvarado, Julia Bryan-Wilson, Macarena Gómez-Barris, Colin Gunckel, Joshua Javier Guzmán, Richard T. Rodríguez, and Iván A. Ramos. Designed by Kimberly Varella of Content Object, the catalogue will be available in October 2017.

The exhibition will be presented at both the ONE Archives' gallery in West Hollywood, temporarily located at 9007 Melrose Avenue, and MOCA Pacific Design Center.

Axis Mundo: Queer Networks in Chicano L.A. is organized by David Evans Frantz, Curator at ONE Archives at the USC Libraries, and C. Ondine Chavoya, Professor of Art and Latina/o Studies at Williams College, in collaboration with The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles.



Axis Mundo: Queer Networks in Chicano L.A. has been made possible through major grants from the Getty Foundation.



This exhibition is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. Additional support has been provided by The Calamus Foundation of New York, Inc., the City of West Hollywood through WeHo Arts—the City's Arts Division and Arts & Cultural Affairs Commission, Kathleen Garfield, the ONE Archives Foundation, the USC Libraries, and the Luis Balmaseda Fund for Gay & Lesbian Archives, administered by the California Community Foundation.



Lead support for MOCA Pacific Design Center is provided by Charles S. Cohen.



Exhibitions at MOCA are supported by the MOCA Fund for Exhibitions with lead annual support provided by Sydney Holland, founder of the Sydney D. Holland Foundation. Generous funding is also provided by Allison and Larry Berg, Delta Air Lines, and Jerri and Dr. Steven Nagelberg.

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In-kind media support is provided by KCRW 89.9 FM and 

Image credit: Teddy Sandoval, *Las Locas*, c. 1980, acrylic and mixed media on unstretched canvas, 39 x 52 in. (99 x 133.4 cm), collection of Paul Polubinskas, photograph by Fredrik Nilsen

RELATED PROGRAMS

MEMBERS' OPENING: *AXIS MUNDO: QUEER NETWORKS IN CHICANO L.A.*

Friday, September 8, 7–9pm

MOCA Pacific Design Center and the ONE Gallery, West Hollywood

INFO 213/621-1794 or membership@moca.org

FREE for MOCA members; no reservations necessary

PANEL DISCUSSION: JULIA BRYAN-WILSON, RICHARD T. RODRÍGUEZ, C. ONDINE CHAVOYA AND DAVID EVANS FRANTZ

Sunday, October 22, 3pm

City of West Hollywood Council Chambers

625 North San Vicente Boulevard

West Hollywood, CA 90069

INFO at one.usc.edu

FREE; no reservations necessary

BEETOVEN WAS A LESBIAN: A TRIBUTE TO PAULINE OLIVEROS

Sunday, October 29, 4-7pm

ONE Archives at the USC Libraries

909 West Adams Boulevard

Los Angeles, CA 90007

INFO at one.usc.edu

FREE with RSVP

SIMON DOONAN ON MUNDO MEZA

Sunday, November 19, 3pm

West Hollywood Council Chambers

625 North San Vicente Boulevard

West Hollywood, CA 90069

INFO 213/621-1741 or visitorservices@moca.org

FREE; priority entry for MOCA members

Please check moca.org and one.usc.edu for updates on related programs.

PACIFIC STANDARD TIME: LA/LA

Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA is a farreaching and ambitious exploration of Latin American and Latino art in dialogue with Los Angeles. Supported by grants from the Getty Foundation, Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA takes place from September 2017 through January 2018 at more than 70 cultural institutions across Southern California, from Los Angeles to Palm Springs, and from San Diego to Santa Barbara. Pacific Standard Time is an initiative of the Getty. The presenting sponsor is Bank of America.

ONE NATIONAL GAY & LESBIAN ARCHIVES AT THE USC LIBRARIES

About ONE: ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives at the USC Libraries is the largest repository of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ) materials in the world. Founded in 1952, ONE Archives currently houses over two million archival items including periodicals, books, film, video and audio recordings, photographs, artworks, organizational records, and personal papers. ONE Archives has been a part of the University of Southern California Libraries since 2010.

More Information: Find more information about the exhibition, programs, and the collections at ONE Archives at one.usc.edu.

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About MOCA: Founded in 1979, MOCA's vision is to be the defining museum of contemporary art. In a relatively short period of time, MOCA has achieved astonishing growth with three Los Angeles locations of architectural renown; a world-class permanent collection of more than 6,800 objects, international in scope and among the finest in the world; hallmark education programs that are widely emulated; award-winning publications that present original scholarship; groundbreaking monographic, touring, and thematic exhibitions of international repute that survey the art of our time; and cutting-edge engagement with modes of new media production. MOCA is a not-for-profit institution that relies on a variety of funding sources for its activities.

Hours: MOCA Grand Avenue (located at 250 South Grand Avenue in Downtown Los Angeles) is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11am to 6pm; Thursday from 11am to 8pm; Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 5pm; and closed on Tuesday. The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA (located at 152 North Central Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012) has the same hours as MOCA Grand Avenue during exhibitions. Please call ahead or go to moca.org for the exhibition schedule for The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA. MOCA Pacific Design Center (located at 8687 Melrose Avenue, West Hollywood, CA 90069) is open Tuesday through Friday from 11am to 5pm; Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 6pm; and closed on Monday. The MOCA Store at MOCA Grand Avenue (located at 250 South Grand Avenue) is open Monday through Wednesday and Friday from 10:30am to 5:30pm; Thursday from 10:30am to 8:30pm; and Saturday and Sunday from 10:30am to 6:30pm.

Museum Admission: General admission is free for all MOCA members. General admission is also free for everyone at MOCA Grand Avenue and The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA on Thursdays from 5pm to 8pm, courtesy of Wells Fargo. General admission is always free at MOCA Pacific Design Center. General admission at MOCA Grand Avenue and The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA is \$15 for adults; \$8 for students with I.D.; \$10 for seniors (65+); and free for children under 12 and jurors with I.D.

More Information: For 24-hour information on current exhibitions, education programs, and special events, call 213/626-6222 or access MOCA online at moca.org.

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