



## The U.S. Latinx Art Forum Announces Second Program of the 2024-2025 “X as Intersection” Series

Medford, MA, January 15, 2025 - [The U.S. Latinx Art Forum](#) (USLAF) today announced the second installment of the [2024-2025 “X as Intersection” series](#), a four-part virtual public program featuring conversations with fellows from the fourth cohort of the [Latinx Artist Fellowship](#). The series continues on Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at 1 pm PST/3pm CST/4pm EST with “**Materials of Place, Materials of Memory**,” an event co-hosted by U.S. Latinx Art Forum, El Museo del Barrio, and Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Puerto Rico, and features **Fronterizx Collective (M. Jenea Sanchez and Gabriela Muñoz), Gadiel Rivera Herrera, and Charo Oquet**. The conversation will be co-moderated by **Marina Reyes Franco**, Curator, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Puerto Rico and **Susanna V. Temkin**, Senior Curator, El Museo del Barrio. Details about the full series calendar and information on how to RSVP can be found by visiting <http://uslaf.org/x-as-intersection>.

“Material holds an extraordinary power to convey underlying concepts, references and histories. I’m excited to delve into the worlds of the artists joining us in conversation, as we discuss and learn about the shared threads of intentionality and meaning in their practices alongside Susanna and our audience,” explains **Marina Reyes Franco, Curator, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Puerto Rico**.

This conversation will examine how the potency of material as a bearer of memory and ancestral connection is shared across the diverse practices of M. Jenea Sanchez and Gabriela Muñoz of Fronterizx Collective, Charo Oquet, and Gadiel Rivera Herrera. The artists will share how their art approaches materiality as a means of engaging with their regional homelands and spiritual cosmologies through an embedded methodology that transcends time, history, and place.

“Exploring historical connections between site, resources, and ancestral and spiritual inheritances, we look forward to learning how each artist’s location across different geographical zones - the Mexico/U.S. borderlands, Puerto Rico, and South Florida-infect their material practice,” says **Susanna V. Temkin, Senior Curator, El Museo del Barrio**.

All events in the series are presented in both English and Spanish, and simultaneous Spanish interpretation by Babilla Collective is available. To learn more about each program, visit: <http://uslaf.org/x-as-intersection>.

### **About the Latinx Artist Fellowship**

Designed to address the systemic and longstanding lack of support for Latinx art and artists, the Latinx Artist Fellowship awards \$50,000 each year to a multigenerational cohort of 15 Latinx visual artists for an initial commitment of five years. Administered by the [U.S. Latinx Art Forum](#) in collaboration with the New York Foundation for the Arts, and supported by the Mellon Foundation and the Ford Foundation, this award is the first significant prize of its kind and celebrates the plurality and diversity of Latinx artists and aesthetics. For more information on the Latinx Artist Fellowship, visit <https://uslaf.org/latinx-artist-fellowship/>.

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **About U.S. Latinx Art Forum**

Since 2015, the U.S. Latinx Art Forum (USLAF) has supported the creation of a more equitable art world by championing artists and arts professionals dedicated to Latinx art through research, studio practice, pedagogy, and writing. USLAF generates and supports initiatives that benefit an intergenerational network of more than 900 members and advances the vitality of Latinx art within academia, art institutions, and collections. Past initiatives have included data collection to track the growth of Latinx art history in academia, which in turn fueled advocacy efforts for greater representation of Latinx art; a closed-door convening with stakeholders to understand the urgent issues facing Latinx artists and cultural workers; and the Mazorca Initiative, a micro-grant program launched in response to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing threats to justice caused by systemic racism and xenophobia.

### **About El Museo del Barrio**

El Museo del Barrio is the nation's leading Latinx and Latin American cultural institution. The Museum welcomes visitors of all backgrounds to discover the artistic landscape of these communities through its extensive Permanent Collection, varied exhibitions and publications, bilingual public programs, educational activities, festivals, and special events. The Museum is located at 1230 Fifth Avenue at 104th Street in New York City.

The Museum is open Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 11:00am – 5:00pm. Pay what you wish. To connect with El Museo via social media, follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [X](#). For more information, please visit [www.elmuseo.org](http://www.elmuseo.org).

### **About Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Puerto Rico**

Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Puerto Rico (San Juan, Puerto Rico) is an artist founded museum that fosters an open view of contemporary art from multiple perspectives that converge in Puerto Rico: Diasporic, Latinx, Caribbean-regional and Latin American cultures within a global context. It is a collecting institution, a space of production and creation, as well as of research and conservation, that encourages a constant dialogue between artists and audiences through its cultural equity programs developed on and offsite.

For more information, visit [www.museomac.org](http://www.museomac.org)

### **About the Artists**

**Fronterizx Collective:** Gabriela Muñoz & Jenea Sanchez, of Fronterizx Collective, are interdisciplinary social practice artists who live and work in Douglas, Phoenix, Arizona, and Aqua Prieta, Sonora. Their practice is rooted in their experiences as womxn of color who grew up in the liminal culture between México and the United States.

**Gadiel Rivera Herrera:** Gadiel Rivera Herrera is a visual artist whose practice navigates between ceramic, sculpture, drawing, and collage in order to examine the relationship between materials and the environment. Rivera Herrera was part of the groundbreaking exhibition “Paréntesis: Ocho artistas negros contemporáneos” at Museo del Arsenal de la Puntilla (1996), and was the first recipient of an art residency at Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico (MAPR) sponsored by the Darryl Chappell Foundation (2022).

**Charo Oquet:** Charo Oquet is a Dominican-born, Miami-based interdisciplinary artist whose work spans social practices, performance, installation, painting, photography, sculpture, ceramics, and historical research. Oquet reworks visual references drawn from her research on Afro-Caribbean culture and rituals, revising historically-loaded representations of sacred spaces and symbols of healing and resistance.

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