



Jorge Pardo, *Untitled*, 2014. Hand-painted ceramic light fixtures, dimensions variable. Image courtesy the artist.

MCA Denver announces ***SABER ACOMODAR: Art and Workshops of Jalisco 1915–Now***, an investigation of the work carried out in studios and artisanal workshops in Jalisco, Mexico over the last hundred years. The exhibition opens September 13, 2017 in conjunction with the Biennial of the Americas.

Comprised of work by twenty-five artists, the exhibition explores the integration of contemporary ideas with traditional techniques, while building upon MCA Denver's history of working with artists from Mexico, specifically the Jalisco area.

Denver, CO - The Museum of Contemporary Art Denver (MCA Denver) is pleased to announce *SABER ACOMODAR: Art and Workshops of Jalisco 1915–Now*. The exhibition presents an investigation of the work carried out in studios and artisanal workshops in Jalisco,

Mexico. Focusing on the last hundred years of production, the exhibition showcases collaborations between artists and artisans (like potters, carpenters, blacksmiths, jewelers, sign painters, and printmakers) who work and live in western Mexico. The result of these intersections is the integration of contemporary ideas, precolonial techniques, and methods introduced by the Spanish. Recently, artists have employed traditional materials and practices to produce complex conceptual objects and installations.

The state of Jalisco in western Mexico is characterized by valleys, mountains, and water, and is an extensive territory rich in natural resources. For more than a hundred years, it has also been a hub of cultural production. In many ways, Jalisco is the base upon which many of the myths and symbols of Mexicanidad have been constructed.

Over the years, MCA Denver has worked closely with artists and makers from Jalisco to highlight their work and craft, which is often overshadowed by the artistic production of Mexico City. Since 2007, MCA Denver has exhibited and produced programs with: Jorge Méndez Blake, Gonzalo Lebrija, Eduardo Sarabia, Jose Noe Suro, and Eduardo Terrazas.

Displayed across three floors of the museum, a combination of painting, sculpture, pottery, metalwork, woodwork, and other media represent the art of Jalisco. Although focused on the modern and contemporary production of art and crafts—necessarily excluding centuries of extraordinary creations—this exhibition demonstrates that the elaboration of an object always derives from a physical substratum of materials, the tools to produce the object, and the skills and ideas of creative individuals. Only through the union of all these variables are artists able to make things that dazzle, captivate, and seduce us with their exceptional handiwork.

SABER ACOMODAR: Art and Workshops of Jalisco 1915–Now is on view from September 13, 2017 to January 21, 2018 and has been organized by the Museum of Contemporary Art Denver and the Arizona State University Art Museum. The exhibition is curated by Patrick Charpenel of Mexico City, recently-appointed Executive Director of El Museo del Barrio in New York. Join us for the opening celebration on September 13, 2017, 6PM–11PM. Tickets at: <https://mcadenver.org/events/saber-acomodar-opening-celebration>

ARTISTS: Daniela Aguilar, Jorge Méndez Blake, Jose Dávila, Claudia Fernández, Christian Franco, Mathias Goeritz, Fernando González Gortázar, Cynthia Gutiérrez*, Daniel Guzmán, JIS, Juan Kraeppellin, Gonzalo Lebrija, Rubén Méndez, Fernando Palomar, Jorge Pardo, Carlos Ranc, Chucho Reyes, Eduardo Sarabia, Juan Soriano, Luis Miguel Suro, Taller Ditoria, Eduardo Terrazas, Mario García Torres, Francisco Ugarte, Workshop of Timoteo Panduro.

*Member of the National System of Art Creators 2016–2019 of the National Fund for Culture and the Arts, Mexico.

PROGRAMS

Artist-In-Residence

MCA Denver is inviting four artists exhibiting in the fall 2017 exhibition, *Saber Acomodar*, to come to Denver to be in residence at the museum, each for two weeks. This experience is intended to enhance

the cultural connection between the Denver and Guadalajara artist communities. Artists-in-residence will work with local artists, community partners, and MCA Denver teens to create public facing programs during their time in Denver.

Jalisco in 3 Parts

In addition to the artists-in-residence, MCA Denver will host a series of three talks from October to December exploring the history, architecture, and contemporary art scene of Jalisco, Mexico, to help give context and deeper understanding of the work in the exhibition. Topics, speakers, and tickets will be announced at the opening, September 13.

SUPPORT

SABER ACOMODAR: Art and Workshops of Jalisco 1915–Now is made possible by the generous support of the Biennial of the Americas, Maestro Dobel Tequila, The Consulate General of Mexico, and the Arizona State University Art Museum. MCA Denver exhibitions are also sponsored in part by the Director's Vision Society. MCA Denver also thanks the citizens of the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District.

ABOUT MCA DENVER

The Museum of Contemporary Art Denver (MCA Denver) explores the art and culture of our time through rotating exhibitions and public educational programs. Featuring international, national, and regional artists, MCA Denver offers a wide range of exhibitions promoting creative experimentation with art and ideas. Through adult and youth education programs and other creative events, the museum serves as an innovative forum for a culturally engaged community.

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

WINTER: February 2–May 27, 2018

Cleon Peterson

Diego Rodriguez-Warner

SUMMER: June 8–September 2, 2018

Derrick Adams

Lisa Oppenheim (Opens May 24, 2018)

Kristen Sink (Opens May 24, 2018)

CONTACT

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BIENNIAL OF THE AMERICAS

The Biennial of the Americas provides an international platform for leaders in business, government, civil society, and the arts, to examine the significant issues impacting life in the Americas. The organization's marquee event is an international festival of ideas, arts and culture hosted in Denver, Colorado on alternating years. Beginning September 12 through the 16th, 2017, the Biennial of the Americas will

feature groundbreaking art installations, engaging conversations, live performances and free festivals and programs that celebrate our shared cultural heritage and rich connection to the world around us.

For more information:

www.biennialoftheamericas.org

VIMEO: vimeo.com/thebiennial

YOUTUBE: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIns2krISUtPBtBD8QNUtVA>

LINKEDIN: www.linkedin.com/company/platform-5280-biennial-of-the-americas

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/thebiennial

INSTAGRAM: [instagram.com/thebiennial](https://www.instagram.com/thebiennial)

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