# LACMA

## **EXHIBITION BACKGROUNDER**

Exhibition:Mixpantli: Contemporary EchoesOn View:December 12, 2021–June 12, 2022Location:BCAM, Level 1



(Image captions on page 2)

(Los Angeles—September 16, 2021) The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) presents *Mixpantli: Contemporary Echoes*, an exhibition that showcases the lasting impact of Indigenous creative resilience and connects the vibrant artistic traditions of the past and the present, of Los Angeles and Mexico. The exhibition features the works of contemporary artists and mapmakers who draw on Indigenous cartographic and artistic histories to challenge dominant narratives about place and belonging. *Mixpantli: Contemporary Echoes* is a companion to *Mixpantli: Space, Time, and The Indigenous Origins of Mexico* (December 12, 2021–May 1, 2022), a show that marks the 500th anniversary of the fall of the Aztec capital Tenochtitlan (modern-day Mexico City), and centers on the creative resilience of Indigenous artists, mapmakers, and storytellers who forged new futures and made their world anew through artistic practice.

*Contemporary Echoes* comprises seven works, the majority of which are part of LACMA's permanent collection, including Mariana Castillo Deball's *Vista de Ojos* (2014), a wooden pavement etched with the oldest map of Tenochtitlan as originally illustrated by a tlacuilo (painter-scribe). The presentation will also feature a series of maps by Sandy Rodriguez, who paints with traditional pigments on amate paper to explore the intersection of social memory and contemporary politics. Rodriguez's *Rainbows, Grizzlies, and Snakes, Oh My! - Conquest to Caging in Los Angeles* (2019) maps the history of Los Angeles, from missions to immigrant detention facilities, and *You will not be forgotten. Mapa for the children killed in custody of US Customs and Border Protection* (2019) documents the locations where immigrant children died under the custody of U.S. Customs and Border Protection. Also included is a new work created by Rodriguez earlier this year. *Mapa de Los Angeles 2020—for the 35 Angelinos Killed by Police Amid a Pandemic* (2021) records the

locations that police killed Angelenos in 2020, during the pandemic. A final part of the exhibition will be the first-ever presentation of *We Are Here*, an interactive, digital map of the Indigenous communities of Los Angeles produced by the women-led organization Comunidades Indígenas en Liderazgo (CIELO), in partnership with the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).

#### Credit

This exhibition was organized by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

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### About LACMA

Located on the Pacific Rim, LACMA is the largest art museum in the western United States, with a collection of more than 147,000 objects that illuminate 6,000 years of artistic expression across the globe. Committed to showcasing a multitude of art histories, LACMA exhibits and interprets works of art from new and unexpected points of view that are informed by the region's rich cultural heritage and diverse population. LACMA's spirit of experimentation is reflected in its work with artists, technologists, and thought leaders as well as in its regional, national, and global partnerships to share collections and programs, create pioneering initiatives, and engage new audiences.

Location: 5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90036. lacma.org

**Image captions:** Sandy Rodriguez, *Rainbows, Grizzlies, and Snakes, Oh My! - Conquest to Caging in Los Angeles*, 2019, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, purchased with funds provided by AHAN: Studio Forum, 2019 Art Here and Now, © Sandy Rodriguez, photo by J6 Creative; Mariana Castillo Deball, *Vista de Ojos (Overview of the Eye)*, 2014, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, © Mariana Castillo Deball, photo © Museum Associates/LACMA

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