# LACMA

# **EXHIBITION BACKGROUNDER**

Exhibition: A Universal History of Infamy: Those of This AmericaOn View: January 27–October 6, 2018Location: Charles White Elementary School Gallery



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As part of the multisite exhibition *A Universal History of Infamy*, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art presents an exhibition curated by artist and educator Vincent Ramos at the museum's satellite gallery within Charles White Elementary School. By displaying works by contemporary Latino artists, writers, and activists exploring loss, resilience, and the political potential of poetic expression alongside several pieces from LACMA's collection, Ramos exposes a shared impulse across generations to use art as a powerful method of resistance.

Artists in the exhibition include Isabel Avila, Raul Baltazar, Roberto Chavez, Victor Estrada, Carlee Fernandez, Devyn Galindo, Héctor García, Jacinta González, Raul Guerrero, Fred Lonidier, Maria de Los Angeles, Yvette Mayorga, Delilah Montoya, Jorge Orozco Gonzalez, Betsabeé Romero, Peter Saul, Fritz Scholder, Rufino Tamayo, Teresita de la Torre, Patricia Valencia, Linda Vallejo, Emmett Walsh, and Max Yavno; with commissioned texts by Rocío Carlos, Sesshu Foster, Carribean Fragoza, and Stephanie Guerrero.

"The works borrowed from LACMA's collection run the historical gamut, from ancient times to today," said Vincent Ramos. "It should be mentioned that there are other cultural voices present in the show as well. There are contributions from Native American artists, like the late Fritz Scholder, as well as non-Latino artists directly from the 20th-century art historical canon. All of the artists, regardless of their specific cultural background, have been fearless in their approach to commenting on their respective times. That is ultimately where their connectivity lies." "On the occasion of Pacific Standard Time, and as a part of *A Universal History of Infamy* at LACMA and 18th Street Art Center in Santa Monica, this exhibition affords an opportunity to address relevant issues and broad themes through our partnership with Charles White students and the MacArthur Park community," said Jane Burrell, Senior Vice President of Education and Public Programs at LACMA. "Vincent Ramos' selection of works from emerging artists and LACMA's collection was thoughtfully curated to engage the students and visitors."

Charles White Elementary School opened in 2004 on the former campus of Otis College of Art and Design. The school is named for artist Charles White (1918–1979), who taught at Otis for many years. LACMA has been programming exhibitions at the school since 2007.

# **Charles White Elementary School Gallery location**

2401 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90057

**Public Hours:** Open Saturdays, 1–4 pm. Enter the gallery at the corner of Park View and Wilshire Boulevard.

# Programming

Starting in January First and Third Saturdays Guided tours of the exhibition led by local artists

Second Saturdays Hands-on artmaking for families inspired by the ideas and creative processes of the artists whose work is on view

### Fourth Saturdays

Intimate conversations with artists, writers, and activists on the power of art in both reflecting and resisting the socio-cultural-political contexts in which it is made

### Credit

The renovation of the Charles White Elementary School Gallery is generously supported in part by the Los Angeles County Quality and Productivity Commission through the Productivity Investment Fund.

Saturday programming at Charles White Elementary School Gallery is generously supported by United Airlines.

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



Lead support for *A Universal History of Infamy* is provided through grants from the Getty Foundation.

The Getty Foundation

The exhibition is made possible through the Anna H. Bing Children's Art Education Fund.

#### About LACMA

Since its inception in 1965, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) has been devoted to collecting works of art that span both history and geography, mirroring Los Angeles's rich cultural heritage and uniquely diverse population. Today LACMA is the largest art museum in the western United States, with a collection of over 135,000 objects that illuminate 6,000 years of art history from new and unexpected points of view. A museum of international stature as well as a vital cultural center for Southern California, LACMA shares its vast collection with the Greater Los Angeles County and beyond through exhibitions, Page 7 public programs, and research facilities that attract over 1.5 million visitors annually, in addition to serving millions more through community partnerships, school outreach programs, and creative digital initiatives. LACMA's main campus is located halfway between the ocean and downtown, adjacent to the La Brea Tar Pits and Museum and the future home of the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures. Dedicated to serving all of Los Angeles, LACMA collaborates with a range of curators, educators, and artists on exhibitions and programs at various sites throughout the County.

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

#### Image captions

(Left): Devyn Galindo, *We Are Still Here* (detail), 2017, © 2017 Devyn Galindo, photo courtesy of the artist

(Center): Maria de Los Angeles, Deportation Series, 2017, © 2017 Maria de Los Angeles, photo courtesy of the artist

(Right): Victor Estrada, *Figure in an American Landscape II*, 2013, courtesy of Richard Telles Fine Art, Los Angeles © 2017 Victor Estrada, photo by Gene Ogami, courtesy of the artist

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